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U.S. slams israel over shooting at Husseini's home

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) - Israeli security forces have been "extraordinarily lax" against those who have thrice fired shots outside the Jerusalem home of senior Palestinian official Faisal Husseini, the U.S. consul-general has charged. "I am extremely womed about the shot fired at Faisal Husselni's house." Ed Abington, the senior American diplomat in the holy city, told Friday's Jerusalem Post, "I do not understand why the government does not curb those who cross over the line of civil disobedience. Where is law and order? This is vigilante action which to any Western country would be condemned as premeditated harassment and the authorities would deal with it in a very firm fashion." Mr. Abington added that he believed Mr. Hussein the de facto Palestinian "minister" for Jerusalem, when he said the Israelis not only fired in the air but also directly at his house. The consul questioned how the police could defain suspects and free them rhe next day. Police announced Thursday evening, apparently after Mr. Abington's outburst, that six Israelis, most of them West Bank senlers, had just been detained.



Amnesty denounces summary executions, torture in Algeria

LONDON (AFP) - Amnesty International said Friday that is wrote to Algerian President Liamine Zeroual to denounce hundreds of cases of summary executions, torture and disappearances at the hands of Algerian security forces. The human rights advocacy group asked for thorough investigations into the allega-tions, saying that no human rights violations cases had been sufficiently investigated. "Killings seem to be used as an alterna-tive to arrest," Amnesty said, adding that there were hundreds of "cases of reported extra-judicial executions, torture and 'disappearances' at the hands of the Algerian security forces." As for the other side in Algeria's civil war. Amnesty International "condemns unreservedly killings and other crimes against civilians committed by armed groups who define themselves as 'Islamic groups'." No matter what violence is perpetrated by the "Islamic groups." however, it does not justify summary executions, recourse to torture and disappearances, Amnesty said.

Princess Badia'a. They were seen off at the airport by Prime

Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Her Royal Highness

Summayya Al Hassan and ber husband Naser Joudeb,

advisors, ministers and senior officials (Petra photo)

19 Number 5985

AMMAN SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1995, RABI' AWAL 7, 1416

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Conflict threatens all-out war

Croat forces close on Knin

KNIN, Croatia (Agencies) -Croatia launched an all-out strike Friday to regain land taken by rebel Serbs four years ago, piercing defence lines around the Serbs' selfstyled capital and claiming advances on several fronts.

U.N. officials in Knin said the town was under heavy shelling, and Col. Andrew Leslie, a senior U.N. official in Knin, spoke of a "serious loss of human life" in the

He did not elaborate, but rebel Serbs said they were holding off the advance.

'For now, we're controlling the situation, and there is no panie," said Gen. Mile Mrksic, commander of the rebel Serbs. U.N. officials also accused

the Croats of deliberately targeting U.N. peacekeepers in Serb-held regions outside Knin — a move that could bring on threatened NATO

"We have been threatened by the Croats," Brig. Gen. Alain Forand, a senior U.N. military official in Knin, told Cable News Network, "They have fired artillery rounds and mortars at certain (U.N.) locations, and they have used aircraft against our observa-

NATO had threatened airstrikes against the Croats if they targeted peacekeepers; and NATO officials met Fri-

facilities and personnel.

whether to respond militarily to the attacks, which left one U.N. soldier dead and several wounded.

In Zagreb, U.N. spokesman Chris Gunness said Croatian jets attacked a U.N. observation post in the area of Gospic, in central Croatia.

Soon after, Croats issued an ultimatum to the peacekeepers to abandon the position or face more of the ame," he said.

Leah Melnick, a U.N. spokeswoman, said Croats were holding an unspecified number of peacekeepers after overrunning their observation posts in zones of separation between the hosrile forces.

The long-awaited attack increases the chance of the Bosnian and Croatian conflicts merging to engulf much of former Yugoslavia in the biggest Balkan confrontation since World War.II.

Croatia had massed troops for days around the Serb stronghold of Knin, threatening to retake it unless the Serbs agreed to give up their rebellion and rejoin Croatia. Yet on Thursday, the government dismissed the first Serb offer to discuss a peaceful reintegration of their terri-

Despite Western pleas for restraint, Croatian troops began bombarding Knin at 5

NEWS IN BRIEF

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. embassy in Cairo has received threats against U.S. government targets in Egypt and has warned American citizens in Egypt to be vigilant,

the State Department said Friday. The warning distributed

in the Egyptian capital linked the alert to the expected end by late September of the New York trial of a blind

Egyptian cleric, Sheikb Qmar Abdul Rahman, and others.

Sheikh Abdul Rahman is accused of masterminding a plot

to blow up New York landmarks in 1993. A brief State

Department statement provided no details of the threats

except that there was no evidence of specific threats against

private Americans. It said the embassy was working with

the Egyptian government to ensure the safety of U.S.

Japan's premier plans Middle East visit

TOKYO (AFP) — Japanese prime minister Tomiichi

Murayama is planning to visit several Middle Eastern

nations in September, including Egypt, Israel and Saudi Arabia, Jiji Press has said. Cabinet spokesman Kozo

Igarashi announced at a press conference that Mr.

Murayama was planning to make an overseas trip next

month, but that exact destinations were yet to be decided.

The last visit to the Middle East by a Japanese prime

minister, then Toshiki Kaifu, was in October 1990, when

the region was rocked by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Jailed Sudanese mothers, children freed

KHARTOUM (R) - All women prisoners in Sudan who

were jailed with their children and women who committed

minor offences have been freed, a Khartoum newspaper

said Friday. The privately-owned Akbar Al Youm paper

quoted Safiya Abdul Rahim, head of parliament's social

affairs comminee, as saying only extreme cases should be

punished with jail. The paper's report followed a warning late last month by Sudan's director-general Al Shaikh Al

Rayah that there had been a marked deterioration in the

country's jails. He said prisoners were going hungry and some were dying for lack of medical care. Financial

assistance to prisons was totally inadequate, he added.

'Syria directing PKK actions in Germany'

BONN (AFP) - Kurdisran Workers' Party (PKK) opera-

the Office for the Protection of the Constitution - the

German security service - said the PKK was coordinating

is activities in Germany from its headquarters in the Syrian

capital Damascus. The PKK has been banned in Germany

since November 1993. Mr. Vermander told the German

news agency DPA that the Damascus headquarters orga-

nised both PKK demonstrations and attacks carried out in

Germany. The German authorities hold the PKK responsi-

ble for a new wave of arson attacks against Turkish

interests that has hit Germany since July 24. Mr. Verman-

der said instructions normally arrived from Damascus a few

Germany seeks clemency for U.S. death row inamte

BONN, Germany (AP) - The German foreign minister

appealed Friday to Pennsylvania's governor to stop the

execution of Mumia Abu Jamal, a journalist and former

Black Panther on death row for killing a policeman. "I ask

you to use all means at your disposal to stop the

execution," Klaus Kinkel wrote to Gov. Tom Ridge. Mr.

Kinkel also asked that three other death row inmates be

spared. Copies of the letter were sent to U.S. Secretary of

State Warren Christopher and to the Pennsylvania board of

pardons, the foreign ministry said. Although it is unusual

for a foreign government to intervene in such a case, it was

not the first time Germany bad appealed to a U.S.

hours before attacks were carried out.

governor on behalf of an inmate.

a.m. Between 200 and 300 shells hit the centre of town and front lines in the nearby mountains, Serb forces stationed in the hills returned

Col. Leslie said Croat troops had penetrated Serb defences near the town in several locations after hours of heavy shelling. But he could not confirm that Croatian forces had entered Knin

The railroad junction town, home to an estimated 10,000 people, was deserted, its people cowering in shelters, its bouses burning. Smoke from artillery battles rose from the surrounding hills, and three fires burned

in the town centre. The town hospital, forced to operate from its basement, reported eight civilians brought in, one of whom died. Another man was reported killed in his car.

Knin's fail would be a huge blow to the rebel Serbs and their aspirations to build a "greater Serbia," joining their land and that controlled by Serbs in Bosnia with Serbia itself. Croatia also claimed adv-

ances on several other fronts, but Serbs claimed their forces were repelling all attacks.

Col. Leslie said Croatian forces also fired on U.N.

peacekeepers in observation

posts. A Danish peacekeeper

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip

(Agencies) - Palestinian

leader Yasser Arafat will

meet Israeli Foreign Minister

Shimon Peres on Monday in

a bid to overcome obstacles

blocking the spread of self-rule, a Palestinian official

Mr. Peres telephoned Mr.

Arafat on Friday morning

and the two men decided to

have talks in the region on

Monday, the PLO Leader's

adviser Nabil Abu Rudeineh

latest round of talks which

wrapped up on Friday and try

to speed up the process," he

said. "They will try to over-

Israel's foreign ministry

could not confirm the date

but said contacts were under-

way to arrange a meeting

"There is a need to inject

some new ideas or initiatives

into the talks to overcome

some of the problems which

have arisen in the last

round," spokesman Vigal

He refused to comment on

statements from Palestinian

officials that little progress

has been made in a week of

They will follow up the

said Friday.

told AFP.

come obstacles,"

next week.

Palmor said.

Arafat, Peres to

review stalled talks

was killed and two Polish soldiers were wounded. Radio contact was lost with peacekeepers at other observation posts.

Deputy Foreign Minister Ivan Simonovic said Croatia "sincerely regrets all (U.N.) casualties." But he said Croatia had warned peacekeepers where and when the attacks would come. Chris Gunness, a U.N. snokesman in the Croatian eapital of Zagreb, said Croava had told U.N. officials an hour before launching the assault.

Croatia's attack eame several hours after it called last-ditch negotiations in Geneva a failure.

During the talks, one of the rebel Serb leaders, Milan Babic, said his side was ready to talk about a Croat plan that would give some rebel Serb-held area nearly full autonomy. It was the first time Serbs had agreed to discuss anything other than full independence from Croatia.

But the Croats, embol-dened by a series of battlefield advances, spurned the offer. U.N. mediator Thorvald Stoltenberg was due in Zagreb Friday to urge Croatian leaders to reconsider their decision.

In 1991, the Serbs - aided

talks at the Red Sea resort of

"It's just one round out of

many. It's useless to analyse

one round at a time. We bave

to wait and see. The process

Palestinian negotiators quit

a working group on water-

sharing a day early on Thurs-

day. But talks on other

aspects of the extension of

autonomy across the West

Bank continued through Fri-

day morning.
The PLO has called for

international arbitration to

solve the issue of water re-

Israel has rejected Palesti-

nian demands to take control

of West Bank water re-

sources, saying the aquifers

also run under part of Israel.

650 million cubic metres of

water from the aquifers each

year, but only 160 million go

hard core issues despite

working day and night," Ahmed Korei, known as Abu

Alaa, sold Reuters at Eilat.

He listed the main issues as

the redeployment of Israeli

(Continued on page 7)

'We did not resolve the

to the Palestinians.

·The Jewish state pumps

is still going on."

sources.

(Continued on page 7)

King: Iraq can play positive role in Middle East peace-making

DOHA (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has called for an end to the plight of the Iraqi people urging the world community in general and the Arab countries in particular to open a dialogue with Baghdad to pave the ground for a lifting of the U.N. sanctions and an end of the Iraqi people's sufferings.
In an interview with the

ROYAL VISIT: His Royal Highness Crown Prince

Hassan and Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Friday

left for Europe on a private visit. Prince Hassan and

Princess Sarvath are accompanied by Prince Rashed and

Qatari news agency rethe King's return from a two-day visit to Doha during which he held talks with Emir Sheikh Hamad Ben Khalifeh Al Thani, King Hussein said: "I believe that within the framework of peace in the region Iraq, with its vasr potentials, can play a role in the establishment of peace." adding that without Iraq, "there might not be a

genuine and comprehensive "What is required from Iraq to offer in addition to what it has already done?" asked King Hussein. "If there are still specific points these should be declared publicly so that a dialogue and discussion can be initiated with the purpose of

reaching a positive results. "On my part I am continuously seeking a solution in this matter and I believe that the world should define its position clearly about its demands from Iraq," added King Hussein. He urged the Arab World to respond favourably to Baghdad's peace bids and to understand the difficult situation of the Iraqi people and seek



His Majesty. King Hussein in talks with Qatari Emir Sheikhi Hamad Bin Khalifah Al Thani in Doba Thursday (Petra

about his own contacts over the Iraqi question, the King said that he received varying views from different parties. But what is strange about the situation. said King Hussein is that since the end of the Gulf war Baghdad has been trying to open direct dialogue with the United States and Arab parties but nothing has materialised yet while these parties have opened dialogue over other issues in different parts of

the world. Expressing Jordan's keenness on developing ties with Qatar, King Hussein said that Kingdom would always stand by the Gulf state with all its potential.

Describing the Jordanian-Qatari ties as excellent and continually growing, King Hussein said that the brotherly relations binding the two countries will always serve as a guideline for serving the peoples of the two countries stres-Responding to a question sing that his visit was a good

chance to discuss with the 'Qatari leadership the best means of promoting bilater-

Responding to a question about peace process, the King said that the Jordanisrael peace treaty constitoted a step towards the establishment of a comprehensive peace on all tracks. He said that Jordan will

continue to back the Palestinians in their efforts to regain their full rights under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian peo-

The King also expressed his belief that the peace process was going steadily ahead despite the obstacles that obstruct its progress now and then.

On Jordan's relations with Arab countries, the King expressed his regret that the Arab countries were moving slowly towards reconciliation but he having overcome the most difficult stage in their history the Arab states will give serious thought to solidarity and joint action

King Hussein returned to Amman Thursday following a two-day visit to Qatar where he held talks with Sheikh Hamad with whom he had a comprehensive review of bilateral ties and and arao arrairs, the Middle East peace process and other issues of common

The situation in Iraq and in Bosnia were also on the agenda of the two leaders during the official talks attended by delegations on both sides.

Upon return to Amman in the company of the King. Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker described the visit as very successful.

He said that Jordan and Qatar will work together to reestablish solidarity among Arab states

A joint Jordanian Qalari communique was issued in Amman and Doha.

The communique said the two sides reviewed scopes of cooperation in political, economic, investment, trade and cultura! fields and signed an agreement for the creation of a higher joint Jordanian Qatari comminee cochaired by the two countries foreign ministers aimed at further expanding bilateral cooperation.

The committee will be holding its meetings annually alternately in Doha and

(Continued on page 7)

Syria says Israel sabotaging peace

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria accused Israel on Friday of trying to sabotage the peace process by turning down a U.S. proposal for talks between their ambassadors in Washington. "By demanding that Syria first agree to talks between

military experts on security arrangements, before the two ambassadors meet, Israel is continuing to put up obsta-cles," state radio charged. Damascus Radio accused

the Jewish state of trying "to sabotage the peace process with Syria and Lebanon," which aligns its stand with Damascus.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, accusing Syria of reneging on a deal to hold follow-up negotiations between military experts, has spurned a U.S. call to resume talks at the level of amhassa-Their armed forces chiefs

of staff met in Washington in late June and their talks were to have been followed in mid-July by a meeting of military experts.

But Syria later rejected that step, saying the chiefs of staff made no progress in the discussions on security arrangements in the event of an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan, which the Jewish state seized in 1967. 'Meetings between milit-

ary experts would be useless because they cannot negotiate without an agreement (in principle) on security measures," Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq Al Shara said last Sunday.

A key sticking point has been Israel's demand to have early warning stations on the Golan Heights. Syria refuses, proposing an airborne system

(Continued on page 7)

Nejem pleads not guilty to charge of bombing World Trade Centre

NEW YORK (R) - The alleged driver of the van that carried a bomb into the World Trade Centre in 1993, who was extradited from Jordan to New York on Thursday, pleaded not guilty to conspiracy charges related to the faral blast.

The suspect, identified as Eyad Mahmoud Ismail Nejem entered his plea through a court-appointed lawyer in a five-minute hearing at Manhatten Federal Court. He was ordered back in court on Aug. 16.

The charges stem from the Feb. 26, 1993, bombing that killed six people, injured 1,000 and caused millions of dollars in damage to the 110story twin towers in Manhat-

"He is charged with the planning stages, execution stages and particularly transportation of the bomb." U.S. Attorney Mary Jo White told a news conference before Mr.

The head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation office in New York. James Kallstrom, told the same news conference, "He was the driver of the van that was left in the garage (of the World Trade Centre)."

suspect was flown from Jordan to New York City for Thursday's arraigment. President Bill Clinton wel-

White said the 24-year-old

comed the development, applauding law enforcement for their "deft handling of the case" and saying in a statement: "Once again we have shown that terrorism will not

Mr. Nejem appeared before U.S. District Judge Kevin Duffy, who has sentenced four other Muslim men to more than 240 years in prison for the Feb. 26, 1993. bombing. A fifth man, the alleged mastermind of the plot, Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, February and is still awaiting

The suspect's family maintained he was innocent and said he had no fundamentalist tendencies. "I have a sweeping feeling

that he is innocent because he decided and chose to go to New York and to meet the officials there," said his father, Mahmoud.

Mr. White and Mr. Kallstrom said Mr. Nejem, who is identified in the indictment as Eyad Ismail, went to school in Kuwait with Mr. Yousef and was expected to be tried with him on a date yet to be announced. If convicted, both men face a maximum of life imprisonment without

In the indictment, the U.S. government alleged that on about Feb. 9, 1993, Mr. Yousef called Mr. Nejem at a grocery store in Dallas, Texas, and the two exchanged calls from a coinoperated phone outside the New Jersey house where the

544 kg bomb was made. Mr. Nejem left the United States on the night of the bombing as did Mr. Yousef, according to the indictment. The government believes another suspect who is still a fugitive, Abdul Rahman Yasin, left the country on March 5, 1993.

Officials said the new suspect is not one of the six men originally indicted in the bombing and that he has never been identified before.

In Amman, Justice Ministet Hisham Al Tell said the suspect was arrested in Jordan on July 31, a day after Amman received an official extradition request from the United States.

The U.S. officials said Mr. Nejem had first entered the United States in 1989 from

(Continued on page 7)

allbirds raise OOS-LES-LILLE F. oves in Germany are being directed from Syria, a German security service official said Friday. Edward Vermander of

ore frequent shorest mperatures will out its Farenheit in the seks, the smell met ison has started lets erwhelming the formplained. Resumme air evening med. 100 inflates at the la

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g and a second head it prisoners in the fused to return to the tiles they were the

NEWS IN BRIEF

TEL AVIV (AFP) — The number of immigrants arriving in Israel climbed two per cent to 34,500 in the first half of

1995 compared to the same period last year, the Central

Bureau of Statistics reported. Despite the increase the figures were below the Absorption Ministry's predictions of

90,000 new arrivals for the whole of 1995. More than

650,000 people have flooded into the Jewish state since

1989, the majority from the ex-Soviet Union. The immig-

rants have boosted the population of Israel to 5.5 million

ABU DHABI (AFP) — United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan will visit

Egypt and Syria next week for talks on political and

economic issues, officials said Friday. Sheikh Zayed, 78,

will fly to Cairo Monday for a three-day official visit before

heading for Syria for talks with President Hafez Al Assad.

they said. The UAE, a key Gulf oil producer, has promised

to provide financial aid to the two countries in line with an

economic agreement within the five-year-old Damascus

Declaration, which groups the three countries with Sandi

Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar. The Abu

Dhabi Development Fund has already financed several

development projects in Syria and Egypt through loans and

grants of more than \$500 million, nearly 15 per cent of its

total loans. Syria, which maintains good ties with Iran, has

offered to mediate in its dispute with the UAE over the

three strategic Gulf islands of Ahu Musa and the Greater

Yemeni police seize 60 kg of hashish

SANAA (AFP) - Yemeni police destroyed 60 kilos (132

pounds) of hashish worth \$80,000 and arrested five

Africans after finding the stash on the Red Sea island of Zukar, officials said Friday. The suspects, whose national-

ity was not specified, were trying to smuggle the drugs to'a

neighouring country, said police, who later burnt the

shipment. Yemen shares its borders with Saudi Arabia and

Lebanese man held for cash laundering

BEIRUT (AFP) - Police arrested a prominent Lebanese

businessman on suspicion of laundering drugs money after

an investigation into a gang hringing large sums of cash into

Beirut airport, legal sources said Friday. Ghassan Matragi,

chairman of an import-export company who formerly ran a

private medical care firm, is the most influential business-

man yet to be arrested by the country's anti-drugs squad.

His brother, Saeb Matragi, an unsuccessful candidate in the

1992 general election, is an in-law of former Interior

UAE president to visit Egypt, Syria

Immigration to Israel climbs

Sudanese rebels say rivals killed 145 people

NAIROBI (R) — A South Sudanese rebel group said a rival group massacred 145 people, mainly women and children, and wounded more than 250 last Sunday in west-

ern Upper Nile province. U.N. aid workers were unable to confirm the casualty report but said the violence may bave resulted from a cattle-rustling raid.

In a statement the South Sudan Independence Army (SSIA) said a total of 145 people, mostly women and children, were killed and more than 250 wounded bad arrived at Ganyliel in Payinjar district for treatment. It said gunmen of the

Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) took 4,000 head of cattle, burned down 35 villages, destroyed crops and looted mosquito nets, fishing nets and hooks in the

"On the other band the SPLA left behind 90 of their own dead and two RPD46 light machineguns and three AKM-47 rifles captured by the SSIA forces in a battle that lasted for nine hours," it

A spokeswoman for the U.N. Operation Lifeline Sndan (OLS) said six aid workers for the International Rescue Committee and their camp cook were evacuated from the area Sunday because of insecurity but she could not confirm the casualty reports.

The SSIA says it was the SPLA and some people may have thought it was a military attack because some of the attackers were in uniform or partially in uniform," said spokeswoman Liz Kramer.

But it may have been cattle-raiding, which has been going on in that area since mid-June. Cattle- region.

hut as they now have AK-47s instead of spears it is a lot

more dangerous," she said. The SSIA, led by Reik Machar, urged the inernational community Thursday to condemn "this barharic act of the SPLA against innocent civilians" and called for aid agency help to resettle people from Ganyliel after "this traumatie incident."

The SPLA denied Monday attacking Ganyliel and breaking a peace agreement with the SSIA, which split from it in 1991.

The rebels bave been fighting Khartoum's forces since 1983 for more antonomy for the mainly animist and Christian south.

Meanwhile, Sudanese rebels movement appealed Friday to the international community to assist victims and survivors of the recent attack in southern Sudan.

In a statement issued here. the South Sudan Independence Movement/Army (SSIM/A) said some 35 villages were burnt down and crops destroyed in the surprise attack, the statement said. warning that the "barbaric massacre would greatly jeopardise the ongoing peace process between the two rebel movements and create serious consequences

"The desperate situation of the victims can only be alleviated if the international comm u n i t y a n d n o n -governmental organisations donated bumanitarian assistance in the form of food, medicine, drugs, blankets, mosquito nets, fishing books and nets," the statement

It added that the attack

U.S. plan to give frigates to Mideast draws fire

WASHINGTON (USIA) - A plan by the U.S. Navy to transfer six Perry-class frigates to Middle Eastern nations free of charge drew sharp criticism from Republicans and Democrats at a House International Relations Committee hearing.

Under the navy's plan, as presented by Rear Admiral W. H. Wright, assistant detions, Egypt and Turkey would receive two frigates aniece, while Bahrain and Oman would each receive one. Each of these transactions would be made as grants and thus involve no

cost to the recipient. A seventh frigate would be leased at a cost of \$3.1 milbon per year hy the United Arab Emirates.

'My impression here is that you're giving away a lot," the committee's ranking Democrat, Lee Hamilton. told Adm. Wright.

Committee Chairman Benjamin Gilman agreed. "It is obvious there is some skepticism with regard to these

Adm. Wright defended the navy's plan in terms of the close relations the United States has with the nations involved. "I believe these transfers are essential to our future ability to operate with friendly countries in this volatile area," he said. "Both for the sake of interoperability and as force multipliers, the presence of these ships would estation of con tinuing U.S. commitment to tbose countries that bave asked their national future on ties with the Untied States."

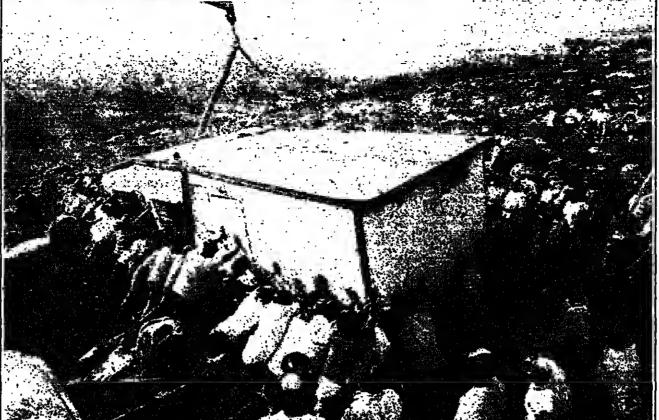
Adm. Wright pointed out that the end of the cold war had led a number of Western nations to reduce the size of their navies, leading to a "huyer's market" for those purchasing surplus ships.

However, he agreed with Mr. Hamilton's comment that the precedent of giving ships away would make it hard to sell or lease them in the future.

The navy, Adm. Wright added, has decided that it will no longer make available ships as grants.

Youths try to set fire to Mary's Tomb

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) - Three Arab youths were suspected of trying to set fire to Mary's Tomb in East Jerusalem, police said Friday. The 1710 were believed to have smoked hashish in the Greek Orthodox shrine before stealing alms and setting fire to a wooden altar. A monk put out the flames with his robe. The church appealed for improved protection from Israeli police. "We do not feel secure," said Metropolitain Timothy, secretary of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate.



PRELUDE TO A SETTLEMENT: Jewish settlers put up a caravan on a hillside near the settlement Qedumin (seen on top right). The 300 settlers that gathered here in the north West Bank area were confronted by hundreds of Israeli soldiers and police that started to evacuate them until

ige from President Ezer Weizman made the settlers stop their action for a few days to try to come to an agreement with the government. The settlers campaign is aimed to stop the widening of Palestinian autonomy (AFP

Israeli colonel admits executing Egyptian PoWs

TEL AVIV (AFP) — An Israeli war hero admitted in an interview published Friday that he shot dead in cold blood as many as 49 Egyptian prisoners during the 1956 Suez War.

"I myself opened fire on 40 to 49 Egyptian soldiers who were captured near the Mitleh Pass," retired parachute Colonel Aryeb Biro, told the weekly magazine Jerusalem.

"I did not have enough men to guard them and we

Sharm Al Sheikh," the southern tip of the Sinaj peninsula. He was leading a parachute unit of the 890th Battalion commanded by Ranhael Evtan under Ariel Sharon.

Gen. Sharon became de-

fence minister and is still a

prominent MP with the rightwing Likud Party while Gen. Eytan, who was later made chief of staff, beads the farright Tzomet Party.
The Israeli army's history

department revealed in July had to move forward towards that 35 Egyptians bad been

massacred by a unit of the Biro said. "I consulted no battalion commanded by Gen. Evtan.

But Gen. Eytan claimed he could not remember exact details. "It was war, there were battles. We were stranded, isolated and encircled," he said.

The unit dropped behind Egyptian lines at the western entrance to the pass, 12 kilometres from the Suez Canal, on Oct. 29. "I am solely responsible for what happened," Col.

one and my conscience is "But I would stress that I

do not bate Arabs and I do not like war. It might seem strange but going off to war means killing the enemy to me and being killed."

Asked bow he would bave reacted if the enemy bad executed Israeli prisoners, Col. Biro replied: "I did not expect my men to get cap-tured, I expected them to

rai, charged that KDP leader

Massud Barzani bad tried to

have him assassinated since

Minister Sami Al Khatib. A legal source said the anti-drugs opposition gang had dismantled a gang of traffickers but added: "The inquiry is continuing in the greatest secrecy."

and Lesser Tunbs.

NAZARETH, Israel (AFP) - A wedding party ended in tragedy in an Arah village in Israel when guests began firing shots of joy in the air, killing the singer in the band. Several stray bullets hit Abud Mohi, 40, as he belted out a dance tune before 400 people at the village of Kfar Mashahed, near Nazareth, on Thursday night. Police said numerons cars parked nearby were also damaged by flying

Wedding party ends in tragedy in Israel

2 Turks admit rape of tourists

ALANYA. Turkey (AP) - Two Turkish defendants accused of raping four women tourists and then slitting their throats admitted to the charges at their trial, the Anatolia News Agency reported. Two of the women were killed in the attacks, which drew strong protets from the local population. Ali Guldali and Gazi Koleoglu said they originally denied the charges because another defendant, Hakan Karayavuz, threatened them with death if they from Georgia and three Dutch women occurred on consecutive nights May 21-22. After the sexual assaults, the assailants slit their victims' throats. The woman from Georgia and one of the Dutch were killed. Guldali and Koleoglu told the packed courtroom in this Mediterranean resort city how, under orders from Karayavuz, they had taken part in the crimes. Karayavuz did not testify in court, hut said he would submit a written statement at the next session, scheduled Aug. 31. Shopkeepers closed their stores for a day in protest of the crimes in May. The defendants were forced to hire lawyers from Istanbul when local lawyers refused to represent them.

Kuwait enforces smoking ban from October

KUWAIT (R) - A ban on smoking in Kuwaiti government offices, restaurants, schools and hotels will take effect on Oct. 1, newspapers reported. Health Minister Abdul Rahman Al Mheilan issued an order on identifying public places where smoking is prohibited under anti-smoking legislation passed by parliament on May 2. Al Walan and the English-language Arab Times said. The ban, one of the toughest moves in the Arab World to curb tobacco use, also outlaws cigarette advertising. It has been signed into law by the Emir Sheikh Al Ahmad Al Sabah. The law stipulates that the ban on smoking in public buildings will come into force only after the government identifies the sites affected by the ban. All places affected by the ban must provide separate areas for smokers to use. Mr. Mheilan's order covers schools, libraries, Kuwait University, places of worship, hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, restaurants, hotels, indoor cultural and sports centres, government ministries, shopping malls and supermarkets.

his defection to northern Iraq Party (KDP) of having searlast December. opposition) is the most imched his bome in Salahadin, portant, and the INC is no Mr. Barzani had "struck a

DUBAI, UAE (AFP) - The alliance between Arab and Kurds opponents of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has fallen apart and northern Iraq is no longer a safe. haven, a leading opposition figure said Friday.

Retired General Hassan Al Naqib said the Iraqi National Congress (INC) alliance was "finished" and that the lives terir Iraq any more because I of Arab-opposition figures in

Iraqi Kurdistan were in dan-He accused militiamen of

Alliance against Saddam falls apart

the Kurdistan Democratic in northern Iraq which bas been controlled by the Knrds in defiance of Baghdad since 1991, "to pressure him."

"I won't go hack to northcannot work properly there.

told the Arab daily Al Hayat from the Syrian capital. "The Arah branch (of the

It's a hopeless situation." be-

longer capable of assuring the fall of Saddam Hussein," said the Sanni Muslim retired general.

Another key Sunni opposi-tion figure, Wafiq Al Samar-

deal with the Iraqi regime to drive out the Arab opposition from the areas he controls." said Mr. Samarrai, a former chief of the Iraqi army's sec-

ret service.

Lebanese family probes son's mystery kidnap

BCHAMOUN, Lebanon (R) - Newspaper photographs show the boy smiling, but behind the happy face lies the tragedy of a family devastated by an unsolved kidnapping reminiscent of the darkest chapters of Lebanon's civil war. Newspaper advertisements

and posters of 12-year-old Amid Eid adom road signs across Lehanon as part of the family's latest effort to solve the two-year-old abduction. which was followed by telephone demands for \$1 mil-

"Our child has not returned bome for two years. I don't see any security. My other son is not safe, I can't let him go anywhere alone," said Amid's businessman father, Nimeh Eid. 45.

"We want to keep this issue alive to reach a conclusion because the government is always talking about the security and stability of the state, but we don't see it." he

told Reuters. "Expatriates should think twice before thinking all is safe here. They should think of their kids," added Mr. Eid. who returned in 1990 from Liberia, where he ran a business for 25 years.

Sectarian militias kidnapped an estimated 17,000 people during the 1975-90 civil war and few returned alive. But Amid was seized three years after the guns fell si-

Police say kidnapping for ransom is extremely rare in Lebanon, even during the civil war.

"Amid was on bis way to get bread. Suddenly a blue Datsun stopped near the house and the last heard from him was bis scream 'father father" Mr. Eid said, choking back tears.

I am living in a whirlpool," said his mother, Jinan, black circles under her eyes making her look older than her 36 years. "News of his death would be easier for me

than this waiting."
The Eids' indignation at what they see as official neglect of the case prompted them to begin their own investigation into their son's fate. They are also turning the heat on the government

to do more. A visit by Jinan to President Elias Hrawi bad no apparent result and the couple have failed to get help from billionaire Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri.

"You can't even meet Hariri. I have made about 200 phone calls to Hariri's office. They always tell me he is either husy or out of the country or you can't see him," Mr. Eid said.

The Eids learned of the kidnapping a few hours after Amid disappeared when a taxi brought a letter from the captors to them in the mountain village of Bchamoun southeast of Beirut.

Telephone calls demanding \$1 million followed and Mr. Eid's offer of \$150,000 was rejected.

Police traced one call to a shop in Aley, a Druze mountain resort, and a second to Christian east Beirut, Mr. Eid said. They also traced the envelope carrying the letters and bave drawn rough sketches of the captors from accounts of witnesses.

But the police have made no further progress, so the couple decided to act on their

To put pressure on authorities to act, the Eids plan a protest sit-in. They already run daily newspaper advertisements offering a \$60,000 reward for information leading to Amid's return.

They plan to send a letter

to the United Nations and have appealed for help to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, whose 35,000 troops in Lebanon give him enor mous influence. Mr. Eid bas a list of licence

plate numbers in the area of the type of Datsun car witnesses say Amid's captors "I am doing their work for

them," he said after months glued to radio communications devices be bought for local police in case any news about Amid broke. "I closed my liquor shop because I can't concentrate

or work. All I think about is my son. I will follow this case to the end, even if I sell my house," he added. After nearly two years without word from the kid-

nappers, the only solace left are photographs of the smiling boy. "They're solving other crimes quickly. What is be-

hind this one that no one wants to touch it?" asked Jinan, who has vowed never to set foot outside her home until Amid returns safely.

"Just let them tell me, even if he is dead. I will do a wake for him and then forget," she

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

PROGRAMME TWO ... Back to the Future t4:30 ... Harry and the Hendersons 15:00 Road to Avonica . Drama 5. News in French Magazine — Faut Pas Rever

JORDAN TELEVISION

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PRAYER TIMES 05:48 12:42 . *(Sunrise) Duha* Dhuhr

20:00 Major Dad 20:30 The Bold and the Beautiful

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St. Mary of Nezareth Church Sweifieh, Tel. 810740 Assemblies of God Church, Tel. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. 637440.

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Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

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Hotel Complaints
Price Complaints 605800 alor and Sewerage 897467 Amman Municipality Complaints Telephone Information . 787111 (directory assistance) ... Central Amman Telephone

Water Authority

Jordan Electricity Authority

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HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6 Akilch Maternity, J. Amn. 642441/2 Jabal Amman Maternity 642362 636140

Shmeisani Hospital University Hospital University Hospital Al-Mussher Hospital ... The Islamic, Abdali Al-Ahli, Abdali Italian, Al-Muhajreen ... 84584 667227/ Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50 ZAROA: Zarqa Govi. Hospital (09)983323

Zarga National Hospital (09)900560 Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732 Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)990990 RBID: Princess Basma Hospital Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275 Ibo Al Nafees Hospital (02)247100 Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA**

INTERNATIONAL **AIRPORT** This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Oueen Alia In-ternational Airport Tel. (08)53200-

5. where it should always be veri-

ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) (Terminal 1) 95:45 Jakarta, Singapore (RJ) New Delhi (RJ) . Beirut (RJ) Abu Dhabi, Doha (RJ) 11:00

15:45 New York, Amsterdam (RJI Cairo, Alexandria (RI London, Berlin (RJ)
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Other Flights (Terminal 2) Damascus, Paris (AF) Vienna (OS) .. Damascus (AZ) Shariqah, Doha (GF 04:35 . 21:40 Beirut (ME)
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23:20 Amsterdam (KL)
08:39 London, Damascus (BA)
03:35 Antulya (TK)

DEPARTURES Royai Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

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21:45 Bahrain. Doha (RJ) 22:20 Abu Dhahi, Duhai (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal 2) Beiral (ME) 12:10 Rome (AZ) Vienna (OS) Bahrain (GF)

90:25 Amsterdam (KL) 01:50 London (BA) HUAZ RAILWAY TRAIN Dep. Amstan ... 8:00 a.m. every Monday Art. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Monday Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m. every Sonday Arr. Amma 5:00 p.m. every Sunday MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in fils per kg. Carrot

220/120 Cucumbers (Izrge) Cucumbers (small) 650/500 Marrow (large) Marrow (small) 300 / 200 Mulukhia 750 / 600 Orange Peaches 420/320 Pepper (hot) 130 / 80 Pepper (sweet) Potato String Beans 360/ 260 420 / 300 Sweet Melon 300 / 200

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Question: of child health care its philasecon Answer: The three projects from health care, the l Child Hearth ment, which :: and tank the Quality of L. for the Orassi The Institute

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Following is the full text

of an interview that Her

Majesty Queen Noor gave

to Al Suhat Wal Hayat

Question: What are the

NHF projects in the realm

of child health care what is

its philosophy on health issues and its future plans?
Answer: The NHF has

three projects that are ac-tive in the field of child

health care; the Institute for

Child Health and Develop-

ment, which is directly in-

volved in child health care

and two other projects that

are indirectly involved: the

Quality of Life Project and

the Population Programme

The Institute for Child

Health and Development

was founded in 1986 with

the support of the Swedish "Save the Children" to raise child health care stan-

dards in Jordan by impro-

ving growth monitoring, di-

agnosis and rreatment prac-

tices. It is the first and only

facility to monitor and

assess child growth and de-

velopment. It conducts primary field research

among children, and pro-

vides information to pa-

rents and teachers to in-

crease awareness of early

signs of childhood diseases

provides follow-up care and

education for new mothers

and the entire family on

hygiene, nutrition, family

planning and proper methods of breast feeding.

y in early

services as the best of any

ject was initiated in coop-

The Quality of Life Pro-

We are heartened that

borh rhe Institute and the

Quality of Life Project have

country in the region.

The institute's main

for the Grassroots.

magazine on Friday.

sit Egypt, Syria

ited Arab Emilates is bultan Al Nahayan who for talks on political frienday. Sheikh Zaha three-day official visible in President Hafez Alia if oil producer, has produced the five-year-old Day three countries in the five-year-old Day three countries with the five year-old Dag three countries with man and Qatar. The, as already financed a and Egypt through log on, nearly 15 per ctg ains good ties with ha ute with the UAE is. Abu Musa and the h

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olice destroyed of kills \$80,000 and arread sh on the Red Sea N he suspects, whose he ing to smuggle the dn olice, who later but orders with Saudi Ara

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and disabilities. ested a prominent Le. The institute includes a aundering drugs more inging large sums of a model Mother and Child Health (MCH) Clinic and also has a Child Developaid Friday. Ghassan & company who tomers ment Unit, which provides the most influential to development assessment e country's anti-drug. and supervision of minor and moderate disabilities unsuccessful candida through play therapy, and designs programmes to improve the monitoring of physical health, psychological and social needs of children under the age of children under the age of children under the age of the social health. in-law of former in gal source said the agf traffickers but adde: greatest secreti. in tragedy in Isra six. It has an aggressive outreach programme that

— A wedding pan 👞 in Israel when guest; cilling the singer in the I Mohi, 40, 2, he belief pole at the village of a Thursday night Poka were 2.50 damagebij

objectives are to introduce the concept of comprehenof tourists professionals in the MCH_ - Two Turkish des services, to train child deen tourists and there velopment specialists partited. Two of the workand management of disabiirew strong potents for and Gaz. Komograsii lities and to study and research the health issues of because unemer dein. Jordanian mothers and chiled them with death? dren. Its emphasis on preided. The anacks man vention and early detection Dutch women datas differentiates the institute After the entual year from other MCH centres. throats. The word Harvard University's Intch were kuled Gut stitute for Social and Ecortroom in this Mean. nomics Policy in the Middle 's from Katayana. W East cited the institute as a (vavuz die not tesmo: model for its comprehensive approach and dewritten statement alt senbed its "psycho-social"

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eration with the World ing ban from Odos Health Organisation and smoking in Kawana ools and notely will be the Ministry of Health. Its holistic development ried. Hearin blinds. approach caters to the economic, social and cultural in order on identified needs by integrating obibited under inter ent on May 1. 4. Will income-generating mes said. The pan off. World to cure tonge. schemes, health, education, national heritage, the enising. It has been took Ahmad Al Safah Ib vironment and community participation in the programme. The health compooking in public huldishe government identify nent focuses on pre-and post-natal care, family plan-Il places affected in the ning and health education. s for smokers to us is libraries Kuwaii [12] The Noor Al Hussein Foundation has developed als, clinics, pharmage this project as a national al and sports centres as model for socio-economic rails and supermarket development in Jordan.

been recognised by interna-tional and United Nations tional and United Nations organisations such as the World Health Organisations (WHO), the United 23:59 60:25 01:58 04:35 HUAZ RAILWAY Nations Population Fund Dep. Amman Arr. Damascus Dep. Damascus Arr. Amman Arr. dle East and the developing world. Furthermore, WHO is also planning. is also planning to establish a regional centre in Jordan based on the most process.

Currente Eggslanl Garlis Grapes Lemon Marrow (small) Marrow (small) Okra Omno (dr.)

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of the Quality of Life Pro-Apple
Banana (Makamma)
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The Population Programme for the Grassroots is a three-year programme established in 1994 in cooperation with the government of Jordan and UN-FPA. It aims at addressing Jordan's present rate of annual population growth hy promoting awareness ahout population issues. The project aims at improving the well-being of the family by introducing mother and child health care clinics and birth-spacing in thirteen re-

mote villages throughout

Jordan, which are served by the Institute for Child Health and Development and the Quality of Life Pro-

contribute to the well-being of community

NHF philosophy on henith issues

All our projects at NHF are based on a comprehensive approach that incorporates health education and medical services with integrated socio-economic development. We stress the importance of primary health care, empowering the communities to meet their own health needs and providing educational and training centres that suppon the national effon to raise the standard of health care in Jordan.

Future plans for child health care

We at the NHF hope that the Institute for Child Health and Development will evolve into a regional training and consultative centre and will be affiliated with the National Children's Hospital, which is a long chenshed dream for the people of Jordan, Upon construction, we hope that the hospital will be the first in the Kingdom to meet tertiary, secondary and some local primary health care needs of children in the 0-16 years age group; it will be accessible to all economic strata of Jordan's population. The hospital will not only be a centre for pediatric medical services, but also a site for graduate medical education for pediatric, surgical, dental and allied scientific disciplines. It will also include a centre for the assessment of child development, the treatment of cerebral palsy and will perform a comprehensive programme of family guidance.

Q: How does Your Majesty evaluate the standard of medical services offered by the public and private sector since Jordan has now become a regional medical centre?

A: The standard of public vices in Jordan is very high due to our many qualified specialists and diverse medical services. To maintain the raise in these standards, Jordan must increase the number of public MCH centres and improve the performance and services of existing centres. Although the percentage of women who give birth under medical supervision is relatively high for the region and our child birth moriality rate is comparatively low, Jordan must strive to provide women with health services at all stages of their lives because women's health affects that of the family as a whole.

We also need to increase the availability of the essential services provided by public and private health centres to enable mothers to opt for spaced pregnancies. We should promote the formulation of mulridisciplinary teams, which would include doctors. nurses, psychologists, social workers, physiotherapists and occupational therapists. As the Honourary President of the Jordan Physiotherapy Association. I am very concerned by the absence of physiotherapy training in Jordan and find it essential to establish rehabiliration departments in public and private universities, which would teach physiotherapy as well as occupational and speech rherapy and would award the graduates university de-

grees rather than diplomas. We also need to establish research and assessment centres for the early detecrion and treatment of childhood disabilities and to increase the rehabilitative centres for the disabled in Jordan, which currently only satisfy two per cent of their needs. Due to our region's young population and high rates of fertility and population growth, it is likely that today's 13 to 15 million disabled Arab nationals may reach 20 million by the year 2000. I do not wish to paint a totally bleak picture of our region, which can boast several notable achievements such as steadily rising infant and child immunisation rates, resulting in corresponding decline in infant-related dis-

abilities, a sharp increse in

social action by private and

non-governmental groups. the impact of education on traditional attitudes to inter-marriage and dealing with disabled family mem-

Queen Noor: Every member of society should

bers and finally grearer sensitivity to the special needs of the disabled in day-today life. Full integration of the disabled should go beyond traditional efforts to help them adapt to their environment through training and rehabilitation. As a society, we must adapt the physical and social environment to the needs of the disabled, particularly in planning projects undertaken by the public sector. This would allow them to enjoy greater independence and self-reliance, which are an essential first step towards their full integration

in society O: What are the most prominent issues related to science, health and child welfare that concern Your

Majesty? A: I encourage all mothers to breastfeed their babies as I breastfed all my children up to the age of seven months. The World Health Organisatinn (WHO) now believes that over one million children could be saved if all babies were exclusively breastfed the first six months, I hope that all hospitals in our country will follow the lead of two of our major public hospitals in adopting UN-ICEF's "Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative" by rooming a mother with her newborn child, promoting breastfeeding and dis-couraging breast milk substitutes. In addition to breast feeding my children. I also made sure that they regularly received their immunisation shots and it is a source of pride for me and for the country that Jordan's child immunisation rates against polio and measles are comparable to that of developed nations.

Physical affection during the early years for a child, which comprise one of the most critical stages in think her development, is very important. I was struck by a study, which found that children who are constantly grow taller than children whose parents did not demonstrate their affection physically. On my part, I maintained the closest possible contact with Hamzah, Hashim, Iman and Raiyah during the early years of their lives and continue to do so.

In addition to child health, educating children and making them aware of and active in global issues is vital. I got my children in-volved in environmental programmes from a very early age and am delighted that they accompany me on my tree planting campaigns and are becoming quite active in pollution and garbage conrrol. School curricula should emphasise environmental issues and encourage their students to join community service programmes. The Jubilee School, one of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation projects, emphasises a diverse community service prog-ramme and its students regularly take part in environmental clean up en-

Another project affiliated with Noor Al Hussein Foundation project is Jordan's first Children's Science Museum, which helps children understand the scientific and ecological cycles of life. The children can touch and manipulate the museum's exhibits to learn about the development of humankind through the ages, natural history, geography, science, the environment, ourer space and the diverse cultures of the world. We also obtained a mobile science museum for children living in rural areas. Housed in a large truck, the museum's exhibits focus on health and hygiene, the sciences, environmental protection and the history of Jordan.

Regarding women's health, one of the most pressing issues is breast cancer, which is the highest incidence of cancer among Jordanian women. I have routine mammograms and regular self-examinations and strongly urge all women to do the same. Jordanian doctors also advise that women undergo yearly Pap smear screening tests for the early detection

Q: How does Your Majesty evaluate the role of international organisations working in the field of mother and shild welfare to combat the various disabilities and diseases afflicting children?

A: International organisations such as WHO and UNICEF have made great strides in mother and child health care by introducing various programmes such as the bahy-friendly hospitals. urging international vaccination programmes, providing information on how to combat malnutrition and deficiency discases and putting forth low-cost measures to combat childhood diseases such as breastfeeding, iodizing salt and ORT (oral rehydration therapy, which could prevent half the diarrheal deaths of chil-

WHO and UNICEF in particular have supported out national efforts to combut the causes of childhood disabilities by focusing on disease prevention through immunisation and early detection and treatment of disabilities. However, 1 must emphasise that international agencies function through our national programmes - the more active we are, the more benefit we will get from them.

Q: How can we improve the role of national and international organisations working in the field of mother and child health

A: On the international level, countries should cooperate fully with international health organisations by assisting them in compiling accurate information, which would indicate the countries' strengths and weaknesses in mother and child health care (there are many areas such as the abuse of women and children which are not well-documented). This would enable international organisations to offer policies that suit the country's needs and are sensitive to the cultures and traditions of the country (especially in areas like hirth-spacing). Countries should also ratif and implement the U.N. conventions on the rights of the child and the upcoming 4th World Conference for

On the national level, we must enhance the role of women in the field of health and focus on women both as dispensers and beneficiaries of health services. This involves making academic and training posi tions available thus enabling women to occupy lead-ing positions in the field of health. We should raise public awareness about the importance of primary health care, especially of mother and child health care services by educating women on periment health issues, developing health education programmes and encouraging the mass media 10 play an active part in the field of health education and awareness. It is imperative that we motivate, support and upgrade the level of professionals working at mother and child health care centres by promoting the practice of multidisciplinary teams and encouraging community in-volvement in the work of these centres.

Q: Would Your Majetsy say a few words to the readers of our magazine in Jordan and in neighbouring Arab countries and especially to those working in the field of health?

A: Every member of society can and should contribute to the well-being of his/her community ini a variety of ways that include volunteering at various health centres, which are usually understaffed and overwhelmed, becoming "health activists" by raising public awareness on pertinent health issues, adopting and promoting a healthy

I hope that, as a country, we will work hard to maintain and improve the standard of health care in Jordan by focusing on a comprehensive health approach through the promotion of multidisciplinary medical teams, becoming more ac-tive in the field of research and subsequently developing national programmes that will tackle health issues of importance to our com-

Crown Prince warns of spread of Bosnia conflict, commends peace keepers

AMMAN(J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has warned against the dangers of expansioo of the conflict io the former Yugoslavia beyond that nation's boundaries saying a spill over of the fighting would have grave consequences on the world at

The Crown Prince, who was addressing senior officers of the army paid tribute to the Jordan Armed Forces' role in helping the victims of aggressioo in Yugoslavia and referred to the Kingdom's relentless efforts to help bring about a settlement to the conflict.

Jordan has more than 3,200 troops serving in Croatia in the U.N. peace keeping force.

The ethnic and factional fighting in these Balkan states should be halted before it is allowed to extend to other regions, Prince Has-san stressed, adding that this has been the position that His Majesty King Hussein has been promoting in his contacts with other world leaders to come to a just set-

tlement of the crisis. The King has been in contact with the leaders of many countries including Turkey, Greece and Iran which have direct relationships with Bosman affairs, and he has urged these countries to exert efforts to end the conflict said the Crown Prince .

Before addressing the military officers, Prince Hassan met with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Abdul Hafez Marei Kaabneh and his assistants with whom he discussed the role of the Jordanian troops with-

in the U.N. peace keeping

Also Thursday. Prioce Hassan received to his office Minister of Tourism in the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) Elias Freij and reviewed progress in the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations and reiterated Jordan's supportive stand to the Palestinian people and Jordan's keen concern over the future status of the holy sites

Mr. Freij said the PNA appreciates Jordan's backing of the Palestinian people's endeavours to attain free-

He briefed the Crown Prince oo the latest developments io the negotiations on expanding the self-rule areas in Palestioe.

Mr. Freij also outlined the problems facing the Palestinians with regard to laying the infrastructure for Palestinian institutions, and issues related to public services and water supply.

The two sides discussed issues related to furure cooperation between the Palestinians and Jordan in differ-

Jerash festival sees rise in audiences

Closing days blend folklore and classics

By Francesca Ciriaci Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN-The 14th Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts draws its curtains today on a folkloric note: dances by St. Peter Freienstein from Austria at the Artemis Steps and a performance by the Lucnica Folklore group from Slovakia at the Forum Theatre in Jerasb.

The Jerash Festival, launched in 1980 on the initiative of Her Majesty Oueen Noor to encourage iotercultural exchange, is also a crucial event in Jordan's policy to promote domestic and international

Though the number of visitors definitely increased compared to last year, "atteodance this year was a bit below our expectations, Programme Manager of the fesuval Lubna Far said. ...

According to Ms. Far, more colourful and energetic performances, especially in be called for in oext year's 15th Jerash Festival, and the 1996 evert is predicted to be even more "magnificeot."-

Two outstanding eveots marked some of the fioal beats of this year's festival: a piano concert by Alberto Pomeranz at Mount Nebo last Wednesday evening, and the performance by the Eugeoe Ballet Company, from the U.S., at the Royal Cultural Centre, also last

In the evocative atmos-

phere of the courtyard outside the Memorial Church built io bonour of Moses on Mount Nebo and overlooking ooe of the most spectacular views of the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea, Mr. Pomeranz's interpretation of Beethoven, for which this Italian maestro is internationally celebrated, was highlighted by the iotense colours of the sunset.

Besides Beethoveo's "The Storm," the programme included works by Clemeoti

and Mussorgksy.
As a planist for the Orchestra da Camera in Rome, Mr. Pomeranz has performed in the internatiooal areoa and has recorded a profuse number of works.

With the unique backdrop of Mount Nebo, an unusual site for an event of the Jerash Festival, the evening was organised to suit all the tastes of an audience's sens-The Pomeranz recital was followed by an Italian dinner under the stars.

event of the festival's last days was a performance by the American dance troupe, the Eugene Ballet Company from the city of Eugene, Oregon, directed by Toni Pimble.

It was the only ballet included in the programme, but the enthused participatioo of a large audieoce sbowed that a significant sector of the Jordanian public is familiar with and fond

The eight versarile dancers



Alberto Pomeranz

participating at the festival, (the company numbers a total of 20 dancers), performed a varied and challengiog bill that provided non-connoisseurs with a precious opportunity to taste the trends of contemporary cboreography.

curtain-raising "Columba Aspexit," a 12th ceotury piece of music, was followed by a sparkling and intriguing "Tango for Five" with music by Astor Piazzola, and the "Children of the Raven," a daring transposition of American Northwest traditional stories loto the language of dance.

The choreography was directed by Toni Pimble, who has worked for the well-knowo New York City Ballet and the Atlanta Ballet. Ms. Pimble's work - sus-

taining a purity io lines, a sobriety in figures, and shrewd quotation - was impeccable.

TCC boosts telephone channels to 4,000

Amman (Petra) — Telecommu oicadoris Corporatioo (TCC) Director Walid Dweik Thursday said the TCC installed a new exchange io June, increasing to 4,000 up from 3,000 the number of channels in the country in order to meet increased pressure oo the network during the summer. in an appareot reference to complaints about the nationnetwork's capacity to cope with high demand periods, particularly last July when the Tawjihi results were announced, Mr. Dweik said the number of tele-

phone calls traced by the

Finday at 7:45 p.m.

corporatioo's totalled about 500,000 in one hour in the Abdali area alooe, a load, he said, which is beyond the technical capacity of the system. He said the corporation can monitor and cootrol only 200,000 calls per hour. The extraordinary load, he said, occurs rarely oo special occasions such as holidays and high school graduation time. Mr. Dweik said the TCC is working on providing 250,000 more telephone lines by the end of 1998, io additioo to the necessary channels. He said a new network, will be completed by the end of August. Japan to grant Jordan \$8m to improve

garbage treatment, disposal problems Amman (Petra) — Japan will grant Jordan \$8 million to finance a project to improve garbage treatment and garbage dumping sites, according to a statement Friday by the Environment Department director of the Ministry of Muoicipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, Saleb Sharaa. The project will utilise eovironment-friendly technology, Mr. Sharaa added. Mr. Sharaa said he was informed about the Japanese contribution Thursday during a meeting with the second secretary at the Japanese embassy here. He said his department approached the Japanese government officially a few years ago seeking support to improve the garbage dis-posal problem in Jordan. Tokyo sent an expert team to inspect the dumping sites io Jordan and assess what would be required to improve the situation. Mr Sharaa said the project will be conducted under the joint supervision of Japanese and Jordanian expens, and added that on-the-job-training for local cadres will also be provided.

WHAT'S GOING ON

JERASH FESTIVAL

Lucnica Folklore Group of Slovakia at the Forum at 7:30

Concert by Kazem Al Sahir of Iraq at the South Theatre

Light Theatre at 9:00 p.m. *Concert by St. Peter Freienstein of Austria at Artemis Steps

*Concert by the University of Jordan Group at the Sound and

'Children's play entitled "The Strange Visitor" at the Sound

and Light Theatre at 7:45 p.m. 'Recital of short stories by Caty Tu'meh at Gracia Theatre on

* Performance by several Jordanian groups at the Forum (6:30-7:45 p.m.)

Egyptian circus at the Forum at 9:30 p.m.

LECTURE

* Lecture (in Arabic) entitled "Russian Position in Bosnia -Fact and History" by Salam Musafer at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, Jabal Amman at 6:30 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

* "Exhibition of Chinese Products '95," at Al Bassam Hall, King Abdullah Gardens.

• Handicrafts and souvenirs at the Amman Citadel (9:00 a.m.-

Grant misses

bad publicity

premiere to avoid

LONDON (R) — British actor Hugh Grant missed the

London premiere of his new

film because he didn't want

his appearance to generate "the wrong kind of public-

old film star who made inter-

national headlines when Los

Angeles Police caught him

having sex in a car with a

Hollywood prostitute flew to

New York before the British opening of "The Englishman Who Went Up A Hill And Came Down A Mountain."

Grant donated £10,000

(\$16,000) to the leukaemia

charity to make up for his

absence which an aide attri-

buted to last-minute business

it has come out very well," he

said in an interview with the

Guardian newspaper. "It cer-

tainly doesn't deserve the

wrong kind of publicity and

I'm afraid that at the moment

I might have given it just

BEUING (R) - A herd of

The handsome 34-year-

More clashes reported in Chechenya but tension easing

GROZNY, Russia (R) --Three Russian soldiers were wounded in overnight attacks by Checben rebels, but Russian officials said Friday tension was easing in the breakaway region after Sunday's military agreement.

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Interfax News Agency quoted a Russian military official in the region capital Grozny as saying small rebel groups had attacked army posts at least 15 times during

But he said the attacks which followed a televised appeal by Russian President Boris Yeltsin for rebels to comply with the July 30 military deal, were less intensive than before.

The official added that major fighting had ceased after Moscow and separatist rebels hammered out the agreement aimd at ending the sevenmonth conflict. "There have been no active military acnons in the last 24 hours," he

Rebel military commanders say they are not involved in the latest attacks on Russian forces, which they blame on guerrillas outside their

Under the accord, the rebels agreed to lay down most of their arms in exchange for

cooperation

MOSCOW (AFP) — The Indian and Russian foreign

discuss international issues,

possibly including the war in

Bosnia and the instability in

the central Asian state of

Tajikistan, the Indian embas-

Arms sales, a major ele-

ment of Indian-Russian rela-

tions, were not going to be

discussed in detail, but "you

After his hour-long meet-

might say in generalities."

the spokesman said.

news agencies said.

spokesman told AFP.

India,

Russia

discuss

withdrawal of most Russian of the Chechen Republic troops from Chechenya.

Russia, which sent tens of thousands of troops last December into Chechenya to quell its three-year independence bid, has agreed to scale its forces down to two 1,000strong brigades.

Mr. Yeltsin, back on the political stage after a mild heart attack last month, threw his weight behind the military deal in his speech Thursday night. "At present it is necessary

to organise the disarmament of all illegal formations...This will become the basis for the withdrawal of Russian troops who have fulfilled their duties," he said. Mr. Yeltsin said peace

would soon return to Chechenya. But he insisted the region would remain part of Russia

Groups of separatist fighters who watched his television performance in Chechenya jeered through-

Mr. Yeltsion also cautioned that there were forces inside and outside Chechenya who wanted the conflict to continue and stressed they must be curbed.

The progress of further talks and processes of revival

within the Russian Federation will largely depend on this," he said. Solutions had to be found based on the

Russian constitution. Mr. Yeltsin said the military deal was the first success of peace negotiations, which began in earnest after a Chechen rebel raid on the Russian town of Budennovsk

Mr. Yeltsin said he would appoint a representative 10 Chechenya to push forward the peace process. He said the region should have its own political bodies and elect representanves to the Russian parliament.

The military accord did not cover the most difficult issue in peace talks - Chechenya's constitution status - and Mr. Yeltsin stance falls far short of rebel demands for inde-

Meanwhile a joint Russian Chechen team left Grozny Friday to look for missing Russian soldiers believed to be held by Chechen forces in the southeast mountains of the breakaway Caucasus re-

The decision to send the search team came during a session of the Joint Military

breakthrough agreement signed last month to end hostilities.

The team was headed by Vladimir Ivanov, a senior member of the Russian delegation at the military talks and Hussein Iskhanov, a senior Chechen field com-

"We have information on all our people. There are about 300 missing in all," Mr. Ivanov told anxious Russian mothers of missing soldiers outside the mission of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe which is hosting the talks.

"This time we will not bring anyone back. We just want to make sure they are alive and find out where they are," he said. The Russian military was

ready to provide a helicopter and go anywhere to find them, he said as one of teh mothers broke down in tears. Mr. Iskhanov said he knew of three Russians held ion the

village of Makhketi. Both sides were to provide full lists of the missing by Aug. 7, he added.
The Chechens estimated

the number of their missing at 3,000 to 9,000. Mr. Iskhanov said, but names were still being added to the lists.

Pyongyang again warns Seoul over arrest of pro-unification activist's widow

SEOUL (AFP) - North Korea Friday issued a thinly veiled warning that ir would refuse any dialogue overtures from South Korea unless it releases the arrested widow of a pro-unification activist. By arresting the presby-

ministers met here Friday for talks on international coopter. Park Yong-Gil, on the charge of visiting the North. eration between the two countries currently working they totally denied dialogue and deprived themselves of on several major weapons the right to talk about dia-India's Foreign Minsiter logue." Pyongyang said in a Pranab Mukherjee met his

"If they prosecute Park Russian counterpart Andrei Yong-Gil despite our warn-Kozyrev for talks aimed at ing. their act will have an further cementing economic irrevocable effect on Northand political ties between South relations," the Comtheir countries. mittee for the Peaceful Mr. Mukherjee, who met Reunification of the Fatherwith Russian Prime Minister land said in the statement. Viktor Chernomyrdin on arrival late Thursday, was to

Upon crossing into the South Monday at Panmunjom, the only land crossing point on the fortified border. the 76-year-old Mrs. Park was arrested for visiting the Communist North without approval in violation of the

National Security Law.

She followed in the steps of her husband. Protestant pastor Moon Ik-Hwan, who was jailed for the same offence in Rev. Moon, who led pro-

democracy struggles in the 1970s and 1980s and died in late 1993, became close to the deceased North Korean President Kim II-Sung during his visit to Pvongvang. During her month-long

stay in Pyongyang, Mrs. Park-received a hero's welcome and met with Kim II-Sung's son and designated successor Kim Jong-Il...

Pyongyang said that the South, while calling for dialogue with the North, had "incriminated" the person Japanese colonial rule.

who visited the dialogue partner. "Their behaviour is selfcontradictory and unacceptable to anybody. it said. The arrest came as South

Korean President Kim Young-Sam hinted in interviews that he was preparing to announce on Aug. 15 an initiative — possibly a summit proposal - in relation to North-South relations. Inter-Korean ties had been

warming after a U.S.-North Korea accord on freezing the North's controversial nucler programme and the South's gift of 150,000 tonnes of free rice aid to the North...

It also came as the North repeated its annual call for a grand rally at Panmunjom to mark Aug. 15. the anniversary of the liberation of the Korean peninsula from

port prompted opposition

parties to demand an official

Mr. Seo's aides said the

minister was quoted out of

context and he had just con-

veyed rumours circulating on

the Seoul Bourse without

"Minister Seo said his re-

marks were completely dis-

torted by the Chosun Ilbo.'

S. Korea minister quits over remark funds, and the newspaper re-

accounts under false or bor-

rowed names, which the gov-

SEOUL (R) - South Korean President Kim Young-Sam accepted Friday the resignation of a cabinet minister who caused a political storm by referring to the alleged possession of an illicit fund by

ing with Mr. Cheraoymyrdin, Mr. Mukherjee said there a former president. had been a recommendation "President Kim accepted to boost economic coopertion the resignation of Governand strengthen military and ment Administration Minisanti-terrorism ties. Russian ter Seo Seok-Jai who offered to quit to take re-Trade between the two sponsibility for his remarks." countries has grown by 44 per a spokesman for Prime

Minister Lee Hong-Koo said. The spokesman said Mr. Seo's successor would be named after Mr. Kim returns at the weekend from a holi-

embassy said. Mr. Mukherjee will visit Saint Petersburg Saturday before leaving Russia the following day.

cent this year and is projected

to total \$1.6 billion by the

end of the year, the Indian

The driving force in relarions between the two colossuses - Russia is geographically the biggest country in the world. India is the second most populated country — is a thriving arms trade that dates back from the Soviet era.

Eighty per cent of India's air force, 75 per cent of its navy and 40 per cent of its land forces is armed with Soviet, or Russian-made material, the respected Moscow daily Sevodnya reported Friday.

The relationship was given a major boost in December last year when Mr. Chernomyrdin visited India and signed a long-term military cooperation agreement.

Russia delivered 10 MiG-29 warplanes as part of \$830 million credit agreed to in

Now. India is hoping to get a Russian licence to manufacture Sukhoi-30 jet bombers and there is a plan for Russian help to build a lightwater nuclear reactor.

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Last month the Russian business daily Kommersant said Indian Defence Ministry officials were also considering the purchase of a Russian aircraft carrier, the cruiser Admiral Gorshkov.

The technical and military supplies make Russia significant factor in India's power struggle with its neighbour

There have been rumours that Moscow now plans to sell Pakistan war jets 100 tion's leading daily Chosun Ilbo reported Thursday a former president was holding about 400 billion won (\$526.32 million) in bank

ernment outlawed two years The daily also quoted Mr. Seo as saving an aide to the ex-president had secretly asked for "special treatment" from the government in con-

verting the money into "real name" accounts.

or Roh Tae-Woo.

The daily quoted Mr. Seo

Chun denied possessing such

as saying the ex-president was either Chun Doo-Hwan Both Mr. Roh and Mr.

Kim Ho-Young. Mr. Seo's secretary, rold Reuters shortly before the resignation was accepted. "Former President Roh has nothing to do with this (the report)." Mr. Roh's aide

Park Young-Hoon told reporters Friday.

Campaign treasurer: Colombian president approved drug cartel's election gift BOGOTA. Colombia (AP)

 Colombia's highestreaching drug corruption scandal threatened to topple the president himself with explosive testimony that he approved a \$6.1 million contribution by the Cali drug cartel to his 1994 election campaign.

Quoting Mr. Seo. the na-

Senate Vice President Jose Gomez of the opposition Conservative Party called on President Emesto Samper to step down, saying Conserva-tive members of Mr. Samper's coalition government planned to resign within two

Mr. Samper didn't immediately react to the charges by Santiago Medina. Mr. Samper's campaign treasurer, which were published Thursday in the newspaper El Tiempo. The prosecutor general's office. which heard Mr. Medina testify, confirmed the transcript's authenticity.

Mr. Samper has denied any knowledge his campaign took drug money.

On Wednesday, Defence Minister Fernando Botero, who was Mr. Samper'ss campaign director, quit the government amid accusations he brought Cali drug cartel funds into Mr. Samper's election campaign. Mr. Samper barely won the June 1994

Mr. Botero is the son of the internationally acclaimed artist of the same name.

Mr. Medina, who was arrested last week, testified last Friday that on April 29. 1994. Mr. Botero summoned him to his office and told him the campaign needed to accept financial support offered by the Cali cartel, the world's main distributor of

When Mr. Medina told Mr. Samper three days later about Mr. Botero's statement, Mr. Samper "told me very nervousily that he wanted to be kept out of this and that I should coordinate it with Fernando Bosero." according to Mr. Medina's

Mr. Botero. the subject of an investigation by prosecu-tors, has denied funneling drug money into the campaign. A congressional commission is preparing to investigate Mr. Samper, at the president's own request.

Mr. Samper's government is in turmoil. The communications minister is also under investigation, and the interior minister and secret police chief have been accused of a cover-up.

"The candidate Samper... values your help in his bid to become president." Mr. Medina said he told the lead-

and the state of t

ers of the Cali cartel in a secret meeting on May 4.

Mr. Medina said he met in a Cali penthouse with cartel leaders Miguel Rodriguez Orejuela. his brother Gilberto. Jose Santacruz Londono and Helmer Herrera. Under orders from Mr.

Botero. Mr. Medina said. he asked for 2 billion pesos (\$2.4 million) and told traffickers that Mr. Samper favoured a 1993 penal code that granted big sentence reductions to traffickers who surrendered.

Miguel Rodriguez offered "unconditional support" to Mr. Samper. Mr. Medina said.

The Cali cartel gave \$1.2 million for the first round of elections in May and \$4.9 million for the June runoff. according to the testimony. But after the election, rela-

tions turned sour. Mr. Medina testified that Miguel Rodriguez called him repeatedly to ask for a meeting with Mr. Samper. Mr. Medina said he told the cartel leader that neither Mr. Samper nor Mr. Botero wanted to talk to him.

Gilberto Rodriguez also allegedly summoned Mr. Medina to a Bogota apartment in September to complain the government wasn't cooperating with the cartel

blasts Florida for 2nd time

PENSACOLA, Fla (AP) — Hurricane Erin thrashed Florida a second time, ambushing thousands of ter-rified residents and tourists and causing widespread damage before losing its punch over Alabama.

Erin was downgraded to a tropical depression Friday morning after its sustained winds dropped below 40 mph (64 kph), down from the 94 mph (150 kph) winds that blasted the Florida panhandle, knocking out windows, damaging water lines and tossing boats like baseballs.
"We have trees down, we

have transormers exploding on power poles," said John Teelin, a spokesman for Escambia County Emergency Management. "It's qutie a No injuries or deaths were

reported. Erin killed at least two people and left five missing at sea when it hit central Florida early Wednesday. Erin was moving northwest Friday over Mississippi,

heading toward eastern The storm brought rain and high winds to parts of Georgia, Alabma and Mississippi, downing some trees and power lines but causing no major damage, official said. Flash flood watches and wind advisories were in effect Friday most of Mississippi.

On Thursday, the hurricane-force winds and driving rain peeled back roofs at shopping centres, restaurants and apartment buildings across several panhandle counties. Hundreds of trees toppled and power lines went down faster than utility crews could keep

Florida Gov. Lawton Chiles requested a federal emergency declaration from President Bill Clinton to pave the way for disaster aid. "We thank God that this

storm did not pack the catastrophic punch that others have in the past," Mr. Clinton said in a statement promising federal help. The Escambia County

Sheriff's Department said 50 to 60 police cars would patrol the area overnight to guard against looting. The centre of the storm

moved asbore at about 10 not been hit directly by a hurricane since one in September 1926 killed 372 people in Florida and Alaba-

State insurance officials projected insured losses as

high as \$200 million. State meteorologist Mike Rucker said many Florida coastal residents failed to take the hurricane warnings seriously and were caught by surprise.

Forecasters had predicted Wednesday night that the hurricane would most likely brush the Florida panhandle on its way to the Mississippi-Louisiana coast - not slam into it.

More than 10,000 people evacuated coastal areas near Pensacola, but Florida officials said only about 600 people had taken . refuge overnight in shelters.

Mr. Teelin; of Escambia County Emergency Management, complained that county officials didn't have enough time to warn residents.

Officials at the National Hurricane Centre disputed that claim, saying a hurricane warning was posted for the Florida panhandle at 3 p.m. Wednesday. Nonetheless, many resi-

dents felt ambushed. "Normally I would have loaded up and moved out, but they kept saying it was going to Louisiana," said 69year-old Charles Clower.

Rusty Hilbert decided too late to move his wife, Fran, and five children, ages to months to 13, out of a motel in Fort Walton beach. His oldest children who wanted to see a hurricane were terrified and spent the next few hours jamming towels into the doors and windows to keep out the water.

Most of their eyes are wide-eyed — not saying anything," said Mr. Hilbert, a sculptor from Abilene, Texas. "A waterspout or tornado went right over the hotel and that time they got a little serious about it.

Gulf Power Co. spokesman Steve Higgenbottom said 62 per cent of the Panhandle utility's customers — nearly a half million people - lost electricity Thursday. He said it could take a week to restore power to everyone.

Hurricane | Murayama aims for new start with cabinet reshuffle partners, said both he and

TOKYO (R) — Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama Friday launched an attempt to revive his fragile coalition, agreeing to a cabinet shake-up and securing public works funding to stimulate the economy.

The embattled prime minister's efforts to recapture political momentum also included an unprecedented parliamentary protest against nuclear weapons testing by France and China. Mr. Murayama has been

under pressure to make a bold move to put his Socialist Party and 13-month-old government back on their feet after upper house elections last month that were seen as an unofficial vote of no-On Friday, he agreed to a large-scale cabinet reshuffle.

whose timing and extent were to be discussed at an emergency meeting that evening, according to one coalition leader. Finance Minister

Masayoshi Takemura, who heads the Sakigake Party, the smallest of the three coalition

injures 2 in south China found in the man's lnggage, the pro-Beijing New Evening HONG KONG (R) - A 19-year-old man set off a home-made bomb just out-

Bomber blows off arm,

the southern Chinese city of Quangzhou Friday, blowing off his arm and injuring two passers-by, a city official said. Police and public security officials defused a second bomb before it could go off in the crowded square, some 50 metres from the main ticketing office, the official said by

side the main train station in

telephone from Quangzhou. Two more crude bombs, each consisting of about 250 grams of explosive stuffed into a soft-drink can, were Post newspaper in Hong Kong reported.

A middle-aged man and woman were injured in the blast, which occurred around 9:20 a.m. (0125 GMT) during the morning rush hour, the official said. The bomber, identified

only by his family name, Lan, came from Guandong province and lived outside the Guangzhou City limits. Witnesses told police the youth ignited the bomb with a cigarette lighter.

- Approved, on a vote of

232-187, the provision that sparked Mr. Miller's anger. It

would restrict lobbying activi-

ties on the part of non-profit

groups receiving federal

grants. On a second provision

backed by anti-abortion

groups, the House agreed to

protect federal funds for

medical schools, even if they

That provision, coupled with the one on Medicaid

funding for rape and incest.

demonstrated anew the

strength of anti-abortion

forces in the House, under

Republican control for the

On Wednesday, in a set-

back for the religious right,

the House voted to maintain

the government's main family

planning programme. But

Thursday's proposals focused

Rep. Ernest Istook, an

Oklahoma Republican.

noted that 36 states have

voted to deny abortion aid in

cases of rape or incest, de-spite an administration policy

and court rulings to the con-

should properly be made by the states not by Washing-

that in 1994, Medicaid, the

government-funded health

poor, paid for only two abor-

tions in cases in which the

woman had been victimised

women lawmakers was bipar-

violence, they are about bru-

tality. They leave lifelong scars, inability to love and

trust," said Rep. Nancy

Johnson, a Connecticut Republican. "Trust America's

women, they will choose

sion in the law that says states

may not deny Medicaid funds

for abortions in cases in

which the life of the woman is

For his part, Mr. Clinton

renewed his opposition to the

measure during a White

"From pre-schoolers to adults, this bill is a body blow

to their future and a body

blow to our efforts to create a

high opportunity, high wage

economy, not a hard work,

low wage economy." said the

In all, the measure for the

Departments of Labour,

Health and Human Re-

sources and Education pro-

vides for so-called discretionary funding \$60.7 billion for the fiscal year that begins

Oct. I, a cur of \$9.3 billion

from this year's spending.

The vote let stand a provi-

The anguish from the

Rape and incest are about

nsurance programme for the

Critics of the proposal said

ton," he said.

by rape or incest.

wisely.

threatened.

president.

House ceremony.

"These decisions

first time in 40 years.

squarely on abortion.

U.S. House gives states Choice on rape abortions

WASHINGTON (AP) -Sbarply divided on an emotional issue, the House of Representatives told the 50 states Thursday might they. may deny governement funds for abortions to poor women wbo are victims or rape or

The 215-206 vote was a fresh show of strength for the religious right in the refuse to teach abortion tech-It came after anguished debate in which several women lawmakers angrily denounced the restriction. "This bill sends rape vic-

tims a very clear message —

you must have your rapists'

baby," said Rep. Nita Lowery, a New York Democrat. "It tells victims of incest, you must have your father's Supporters said the issue was the rights of states - and of the unborn. "I'm certainly against violence against

women," said Rep. Henry Hyde, an illinois Republican. "I'm also against violence against unborn children. What crime has the unborn child committed?" The vote came as lawmakers worked in marathon session to complete action on a bill that cuts \$9.3 billion from

social programmers for the

next fiscal year and recasts the government in a more conservative image. Tempers flared as debate wore on. "The gentleman is out of order," the presiding officer, Rep. Robert Walker, a Pennsylvania Republican, told Democratic Rep. George Miller of California, who spoke angrily in opposition to one proposal long after his allotted time had

expired. This law is out of order. Mr. Miller reforted, and in the furor, Mr. Walker's gavel broke.

President Bill Clinton, who has threatened a veto, attacked the measure during the day. saying its cuts would deny 180,000 youngsters a place in pre-school programmes, and cut off student loans, worker training and federal education assistance to hundreds of thousands of recipients.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich met with several Republican lawmakers, part of a coordinated effort by the leadership to persuade moderates and conservatives to look beyond provisions they oppose and vote for passage to further the party's overrid-ing goal of a balanced budget.

On other contentious issues as the day gave way to evening, the House:

 Refused, on a 367-53 vote, to resurrect a \$1 billion programme for helping the poor pay their utility bills.

that Mr. Kono, who is forearrangements. But the actor ign minister, had acknowadmitted there were other reasons. "If I had gone to the ledged the request. Also Friday, ministers premiere, it might well have approved a ceiling on the totally wrecked the proceedstate budget for the next fisings for reasons you must guess. And that's the last cal year, keeping overall spending tight while allowing thing I wanted to do because growth in areas that will

boost the economy. The ceiling for general spending, the core of the state budget, for 1996/97 was kept down to 43.93 trillion yen (\$483 billion).

Liberal Democratic Party

(LDP) leader Yohei Kono

would stay in Mr.

did not say whether he and

Mr. Kong would remain with

their current portfolios, and

added that he thought the

reshuffle would likely be on a

Murayama) to stay in the

cabinet," Mr. Takemura said

after a morning meeting of

He said he had replied that

he would leave the decision

to the prime minister, and

We were asked (by Mr.

However, Mr. Takemura

Murayama's cabinet.

large scale.

the three leaders.

Sheep, goats commit mass suicide

sheep and goats committed mass suicide in a lake in Inner Mongolia, refusing to return to shore despite frantic efforts by their Chinese shepherd to save them, ihua News Agency said: It all began when the shepherd drove his flock to a lake to drink on July 17 and two goats with an apparent death wish jumped into the I.5metre deep water, prompting their fellows to follow, Xinhua said. Only after a three-hour rescue aided by 20 berdsmen did the shepberd succeed in saving 281 sheep while the other 249 animals, including 206 goats, drowned, the official agency said. This was the first such case in China, Xinhua said, adding that sheep were usually afraid of water: "An investigation revealed that when the sheep started sinking, they just kept spinning in the water and refused to swim to the shore, and even when some were pulled out of the water, they tried to go back in again," Xinhua said. A medical examination found the survivors in normal

Pavarotti meets with prosecutors in massage . centre probe

BERGAMO, Italy (AP) — Luciano Pavarotti tried a new role Wednesday: Witness in the case of a massage centre owner under investigation for fraud. Prosecutors in this northern city met with the tenor for a little less than an hour. He was one of a series of Italian celebrity clients of pierantonio Bettelli questioned by the authorities. Mr. Bettelli, a onetime nurse and well-known figure in Bergamo, ran the 'City of Bergamo" physiotherapy centre. Prosecutors are investigating him on charges that he was operating without proper medical credentials and illegally dispensing prescription "I've never been to Bettelfi's." Pavarotti told reporters after the session, the Italian News Agency (ANSA) said. "It was he who came to me when I needed massages." The Rome daily
La Repubblica reported that
two clients also have alleged an X-rated film was shot at the centre, which was closed down a week ago.

Art student to sell Lennon cartoons

LONDON (R) — A former art student who swapped her yellow sweater for a sketchbook of John Lennon's drawings could receive up to £120,000 (\$192,400) when the book comes up for anction, Sotheby's said Friday. Fashion designer Helen Anderson did the swap in 1959 with the former Beatle in her days at Liverpool Art College. Sotheby's say the book, being put up for sale on September 14, contains the largest number of his early cartoons to be offered for sale. Lennon, who was murdered in New York in 1980, was very blunt about himself, signing one self-portrait "simply a simple pimple short-sighted John wimple Lennon. His best friend Pete Shotton is sbown shaking a rattle while a Brutish fellow student is dubbed "Psyche."



This file photo shows it.

Japan on Aug. 5. 1945 Hiroshim

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wn a week ago rt student sell Lennon artoons ONDON (R) - Aix student who swapped

llow sweater for a ok of John Lennon es could receive at 20,000 (\$102,00) and ok comes up to ak; otheby s said fine shion designed and the said aderson did the said aderson did the said aderson did the said and th 50 with the female her days at Livered her days at Livered her sotheby; strong pur work, being pur work. September 14, 35 e largest number e largest man he he r sale. Lennon, andered in New York (St). Was very limited to the control of the mself. signing of mself. signing of mself. signing of mself. signing of mself. significant in the mple short significant ple Lennon. It is made a rathe white aking a rathe white a fellow student is made.

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World News



This file photo shows the U.S. strategic bomber B-29 "Enola Gay," which dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan on Aug. 6, 1945 (AFP photo)

Hiroshima mayor apologises for war atrocities

HIROSHIMA, Japan (Agencies) — Hiroshima's Mayor Takashi Hiraoka said Friday that commemoration events for victims of the atomic bomb should also be used to apologise for Japanese atrocities in Asia during World

Mr. Hiraoka, 68, has already offered apologies for suffering throughout Asia caused by Japan's aggression during the war, but the mayor said commemorating the 5th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bomb drop on his city on Aug. 6 was also a chance to "look back in his-

tory,"
"I would like to take this opportunity to apologise for what Japan did in the colonialisation of other Asian-Pacific countries and also for war atrocities committed," he sald at a press conference.

Mr. Hiraoka, who has served as mayor for five years in the city which lost 140,000 citizens in the blast and its aftermath, said the bombling! should not be rused as an excuse of the criminal acts of Japan" during the war.

"On the Japanese side, we must retiect more seriously what we did during war the former journalist said, as scores of people filed through the nearby Peace Park memorial which marks the spot where the atomic

bomb was dropped. They placed flowers or garlands of multicoloured paper cranes, one of the most cherisbed symbols in Japan, at the memorial. After a low bow. they clapped their hands to alert the souls of the dead. During his term of office,"

Mr. Hiraoka has added a wing to the city's museum which, for the first time, illus-

drawing a tough paratroop

regiment from Northern Ire-

land, closing a controversial

chapter that began with

bloody shootings in 1972 and

ends as the province cele-

Britain insisted the with-

drawal was routine, amid a

current impasse in peace moves over demands that

IRA guerrillas scrap weapons

Sinn Fein, the political

wing of the Irish Republican

Army (IRA) welcomed the

pullout of "this notorious

regiment" but said the num-

ber of troops in the province would not actually fall. Nor

would it bring Belfast any

closer to a permanent peace.

oppose British rule have

loathed the paras since 1972

when its soldiers were in-

volved in the shooting of 13

Irish nationalists who

to consolidate a ceasefire.

brates a year of peace.

trates the military past of Hiroshima, which was a garrison, naval dockyard and one of two headquarters for

the imperial army,
However, his determina-tion to show both the aggressor and victim has not extended to invitations to U.S. officials. "If they wish to come they are welcome, said Mr. Hiraoka. But none will be present Sunday, the anniversary of the bombing,

Mr. Hiraoka has campaigned for the abolition of nuclear weapons and plans to renew his message in a "peace declaration" Sunday. The message will also call for a halt to all nuclear tests.

He has already sent a letter to French President Jacques Chirac to protest the resumption of tests in the South

The mayor believes that Hiroshima is also launching as message of hope to the world from survivors of the inuclear holocaust. They have rebuilt a prosperous city, one jof the world's most modern, and "recovered their dignity as human beings which had been wiped out by the atomic bomb," he said.

Thousands of Koreans died alongside Japanese in the atom-bombing of Hiroshima, but many survivors and families of those killed feel excluded from annual tributes to bomb victims.

That's especially true this year, the 50th anniversary of the bombing, when tens of thousands of ordinary citizens and dignitaries from all over the world are converging on Hiroshima.

South Koreans were holding a separate ceremony Saturday, the day before the

Most recently, paratrooper

Lee Clegg caused fresh out-rage in the British province

when released from jail early

after killing a teenage woman

at a Belfast checkpoint that

His parole unleashed the

worst tensions in Northern Ireland since a fragile peace

descended last Sept. 1 after

the IRA halted its 25-year

war to end British rule. No

concrete agreements on the

province's future have yet

emerged, raising fears of a

return to violence should the

anniversary pass without any

breakthrough on all-party

has done its two-year term

an army spokesman said Fri-

and they are on the move,

"The parachute regiment

was halting joyriders.

BELFAST (R) — Britain civilians in Londonderry on announced Friday it is with- so-called bloody Sunday.

main commemorations. Many Koreans still have birter memories of the 35 years of brutal Japanese colonial rule, which ended with

the end of World War II. Historians estimate that between 70,000 and 100,000 Koreans, mainly forced labourers, were caught in the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Between 30,000 and 50,000 of them were kil-

On the day of the bombing, park Kyu-Mok, now 78, was digging a military bunker in a mountain near Hiroshima. He has just taken off his shirt when the bomb was dropped.

He suffered severe burns all over his body, and his left hand was left severely deformed.

'Since then, I have lived through all kinds of turmoil, I feel embittered when I look back on my poverty-stricken life and the cold public atti-After the war, the trio/ of

Hiroshima created a park near what was the centre of the blast, and built a memorial to all victims of the

Korean survivours and their advocates felt that Korean victims needed their own monument, especially since so many had been brought forcibly to work on foreign soil. But they were not allowed to erect a monument inside the park itself.

In 1970, the Japanese government allowed the Korean bomb survivors to build a monument about 100 metres outside the park. The 3-metre-high (10-foot-high) marker is made of black granite brought from South

placed by a non-parachute

regiment, also about 550

strong, but there are no cur-

rent plans to bring more of

the crack infantrymen into

ter about this. Not is there

any link between the

anniversary of the ceasefire

rived in August 1993 and it's

The paras with their dis-

tinctive red berets stand out

from other infantry soldiers

for their high entry require-

ments and arduous physical

The tough regiment,

embroiled in controversy

from the Falklands to Kenya,

has constantly met with hos-

tility since being posted to

Northern Ireland in the

"The British governments

should take this opportunity

to address the hurt this reg-

and the departure. They ar-

time for them to go."

training.

1970s.

"But there is nothing sinis-

Northern Ireland, he said.

U.K. withdrawing paratroopers from N. Ireland

The Koreans want their monument moved inside the park. So far that hasn't happened — at least partly due to infighting by North and South Koreans.

City officials said in 1990 that the Koreans could move their monument into the park, but only if it represents victims from both Koreas. North Koreans in Japan say the script on the current monument contains South Korean phrasing and insist it must be changed or they want a separate monument.

The Korean monument has been scorched three times by unknown vandals.

Like many Korean survivors. Park returned to his homeland after the war. He has spent the years since then living off a tiny government pension in the southern South Korean city of Hvochun

Hyochun is known as 'Korea's 'Hiroshima'' because it is home to about a quarter of the 2,350 Korean atomic-bombing victims who live in South Korea, Most of them, in their 60s and 70s, are poor and sick.

About 200 people were expected to attend a ceremony in the town hall at Hyochun

When the bomb exploded. Kang Moon-Hee, 76, was a construction worker at a shipbuilding facility about three kilometres from the centre of the blast. He suffered only minor burns, but still mourns his Korean compatriots.

"I hope by the time my name is listed on the Korean roster, the nation is reunified and the monument stands inside the Park," he said.

iment has caused over the last

25 years... (and) initiate all-

party peace talks so that we

can set down to the pressing

business of finding a perma-nent solution to this con-

flict," said Sinn Fein Chair-

In 1993, a platoon smashed

up the town of Coalisland

after a paratrooper has his

legs blown off by an IRA

landmine. Six men were

The army spokesman

would not say when the pa-

ras, a presence in Northern

Ireland since the fighting be-

gan, would go but that the withdrawal had been planned

before the Cless controversy.

papers are reading more into

it but this is a routine move-

ment," he said. Security

sources said the pullout was

expected "some time in the

"We're aware that certain

charged with assault.

man Mitchel McLaughlin.

Sri Lankan peace proposals 'will not stop' resistance to rebels

COLOMBO (AFP) — President Chandrika Kumaratunga vowed Friday to press ahead with her political plan to end Sri Lanka's ethnic bloodshed but said separatist rebels were unlikely to accept ir and would have ro be defc-

Mrs. Kumaratunga said she expected the rebel Li-beration Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) to reject the plan for regional autonomy unveiled Thursday and ruled out negotiating with the guer-

"Logically thinking, I don't see how they will accept (the proposals) unless they are militarily weakened," she said. "We are not going to discuss with rebels who are warring with our soldiers." She said the Tigers had already rejected foreign or international mediation to

bring about a settlement.
"We can win the battle militarily. But unless we have a political solution we can't win the war," Mrs. Kumaratunga said, adding that a 'vociferous minority' opposed a political settlement because they wanted war to continue.

The peace package would give extensive autonomy to eight regions, including areas where Tamils dominate. The plan requires a two-thirds majority in parliament and approval at a referendum.

Mrs. Kumaratunga said she hoped the package would be part of the Sri Lankan constitution "within several months" and hoped the rebels would be defeated by then to allow the restoration. of civil administratiion in the embattled northeast, where the rebels run a de facto separate government.

'We will continue the military offensive as long as the LTTE does not agree to substantially lay down arms and stop the war, not temporarily but permanently," Mrs. Kumaratunga said.

She expected "majority consensus" for the reforms and hoped the main opposi-rion United National Farry (UNP) would back the ininative to end the ethnic bloodletting, which has claimed over 50,000 lives since 1972. The UNP said it needed

more time to study the plan. Whatever the opposition. we do not intend to tear up these proposals," said Mrs. Kumaratunga. "This is not a stubborn view held by me or my government ... This is to satisfy the aspirations of the

people. The influential Sinhala Buddhist clergy and radicals on both sides of the ethnic divide have rejected the plan. calling it a sell-out to the

other side Mrs. Kumaratunga said she was unaware of a demand by cabiner minister S. Thondaman that the northeast region should be handed over to the rebels for a fiveyear period as part of a polirical settlement. The demand goes against government

Mr. Thondaman said he gave a copy to Mrs. Kumaratunga but had not received a

The government had attempted to discuss peace proposals with the LTTE but the militant group pulled out of six months of talks and went back to fighting on April 19. The LTTE has chosen the

barrel of a gun to communicate." Mrs. Kumaratunga said, adding she was horrified to see the bodies of hundreds of Tamil youngsters killed during an abortive attack against an army camp last

"I do not know how an organisation which proclaims to protect the people could expose the children to war," she said, referring to the rebels' assault on the army camp using child-fighters.

She said the military had the upper hand in the campaign against the rebels although the Tigers gained "spectacular advantages" by deploying suicide bombers against security forces.

Three soldiers were killed and 20 more wounded when rroops launched a "limited offensive" against Tamil rebels in northern Sri Lanka Friday, the military said. The body of a rebel was

recovered with a weapon during the offensive, but the military said guerrilla radio transmissions monitored by troops indicated that there were more casualties.

About 1.000 soldiers supported by anillery, air force and the navy launched the offensive at dawn from Alaveddi village in northern Jaffna peninsula, a military statement said.

The soldiers overcame rebel resistance and advanced to Chunnakan village, a disance of about two kilometres. The military said

the operation was still in progress. In the past, the military has advanced from its defence lines to clear regions ahead and return to camp in similar limited offensive."

The offensive was held about 310 kilometres (194 miles) north of the capital, Colombo.

Mrs. Kumaratunga Friday accused the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) of making false claims that the air force killed 65 people at a Roman Catholic Church. Mrs. Kumaratunga told re-

porters here the ICRC statement blaming the air force for bombing the St. Peter's Church of Navaly in the northern Jaffna peninsula had been rejected by the head of the Roman Catholic Church in Sri Lanka.

"It is regrettable that the ICRC has hastily issued a statement," she said. "They have issued a false statement. It must have been a silent bomb or a false bomb.

"The ICRC says all kinds of things. But the Archbishop (Nicholas Marcus Fernando) told me that the casualties are less than the figure of 65 (killed) bandied about.

The church compound had most probably been hit by a mortar fired by security forces or the Tamil guerrillas who had a gun position behind the church, she said at her first press conference since the incident.

In its statement last month, the ICRC said that 65 people were killed and 150 wounded in an air strike during a major military campaign against the Tamil Tiger guerrillas in the

Mrs. Kumaratunga's latest outburst against the ICRC added to the mounting tension between the international aid agency and the Sri Lankan government over the Tamil separatist war.

The ICRC operates in Sri Lanka under an agreement signed with the previous government.

Sri Lanka's influential Buddhist clergy has deman-ded the expulsion of the

ICRC saying that they sup-ported Tamil Tiger guerrillas. The head of the ICRC de-legation here, Marco Altherr, has already expressed regret over the statement when he was summoned by Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar last month.

Christopher relives past, looks to Cambodian future

PHNOM PENH, (Agencies) - Warren Christopher Friday become the first U.S. secretary of state to visit Cambodia in four decades on a trip that aimed to overcome

in South East Asia. He toured the grisly prison where the Communist Khmer Rouge tortured thousands of Cambodians during the mid-1970s and waded into the country's press freedom controversy, telling officials don't lash out at journalists who criticise you," U.S. spokesman Nicholas Burns

Mr. Christopher also promised the government he would urge the U.S. Senate to pass most favourable nation trade benefits for Cambodia.

However, he said to achieve generalised system of preferences benefits, which lowers tariffs on imports, Cambodia had to have free labour unions, Mr. Burns told reporters.

In a statement on arrival from Malaysia, Mr. Christopher hailed Cambodia's fledgling democracy and the United Nations peacekeeping mission that helped bring it about, one of the few recent successess for the embattled international body.

progress the Cambodian people have made, with dignity and courage, toward peace and freedom. I am here to underscore the commitment of the United States to support the democratic path you have chosen. And I am here to urge you to consolidate the

reported Friday.

to China.

Harry Wu.

cision to send the two officers

The report said Mr. Christ-

opher had argued that send-

ing the two officers to China

'put in peril a carefully

orchestrated effort to reopen

a dialogue with the Chinese

"I am here to salute the

institutions of democracy as you prepare for your next

round of elections," he said. But Mr. Christopher stressed that "the survival of Cambodian democracy can-America's bitter war legacy not be taken for granted" and urged that the international community go beyond the massive humanitarian investment it has made in Cambodia over the past decade.

He promised Cambodia 12,000 tonnes of rice worth \$5.4 million to meet urgent needs. The United States bombed

Cambodia in the early 1970s during the Vietnam War but officials said this history was not raised in Mr. Christopher's meetings. The country also has been

scarred by the Communist Khmer Regime which is blamed for one million deaths when it ruled Cambodia in 1975-1978, as well as 20 years of civil war. A U.S.-backed peace

agreement signed in 1991 led to U.N.-sponsored elections in 1993 and the current government in which leaders of the two non-Communist factions, Hun Sen and Prince Norodom Ranariddh, serve as co-prime ministers.

Fighting continues between the government and the Khmer Rouge but U.S. officials said the guerrillas have no more than 10,000 members and are "a minimal threat to overall stability." Mr. Christopher held talks

with the two prime ministers and was to have dinner with King Norodom Sihanouk, His lunch guests were government opposition figures and critics. Acknowledging the legacy of the war he visited a project — partially funded by the United States — that trains Cambodians in defusing an

estimated eight million landmines in Cambodia. Mr. Christopher also toured the former Khmer Rouge prison, remarking afterwards: "Man's inhumanity to man. It's hard to con-

turned on itself." As with Vietnam, where Americans lost a humiliating war and which he visits Saturday, Mr. Christopher aims to strike a balance between hon-

ceive the whole country

ouring the past and looking to the future. Asia, especially Vietnam, is a vibrant new business opportunity.

Human Rights Watch/ Asia, the international advocacy group, said in a recent report that while the Khmer Rouge is a major human rights violator, the government is also guilty of abuses.

U.S. officials say the situation in Cambodia is undoubtedly much berter than previously but Mr. Christopher urged the government to keep working on the prob-

Cambodia's first prime minister Friday told Mr. Christopher that Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot could participate in the 1998 elections if the guerrillas stopped

fighting. The announcement marks a major departure from pre-

vious statements about the

infamous rebel whose follow-

ers are blamed for the deaths of more than a million Cambodians during their reign from 1975 to 1979.

"If the Khmer Rouge laid down their arms, we would welcome them." Prince Norodom Ranariddh, told Mr. Christopher, according to U.S. State Department spokesman.

"If Pol Pot wants, he can come and lay down his arms. and say that he has changed, and run in the elections," Mr. Burns quoted the prince as

The next national elections in Cambodia are scheduled to be held in 1998 and government officials in the past have made it clear that if the Khmer Ronge would give up fighting, some of their leaders would be allowed to stand.

The invitation however has never before been extended to Pol Pot and his closest associates.

Mr. Burns did not say whether Mr. Christopher had responded to the statement. but the secretary of state in a later tour of a museum dedicated to the victims of Pol Pol's oppression appeared moved and called the years of Khmer Rouge rule "horri-

Mr. Burns said Mr. Christopher was told by a survivor of the radical Maoist regime that only three words describe those years: "hunger. fear and suffering."
The U.S. is currently fund-

ing an investigation into the Cambodian genocide that is being conducted by Yale

day. The "paras" will be re-Kashmir separatists appeal for hostages' release

separatist group appealed to militants Friday to immediately release five Westerners held hostage in the Himalayan region for a

month. Mohammad Shafi Misgar of the pro-independence Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) said during Friday prayers at Srinagar's Hazratbal Shrine that the abduction of the tourists by Al Faran militants was against the teaching of Islam.

Mr. Misgar appealed to the shadowy Al Faran holding the tourists, saying the abductions had a negative im-

pact on the five-year-old re-

Whatever be the factors

bellion against New Delhi.

on our movement cannot be ignored," Mr. Misgar said during the prayers.

mediately," he said.

"If they are not released on

Kashmir Valley will celebrate the Prophet's birthday on

carly July by Al Faran while on trekking holidays near from Srinagar, the state's summer capital.

Earlier the All Party Hurriyat (Freedom) Conference. which groups some 30 Kashmiri religious, social and political parties, had condemned the abductions and appealed for the release of the hos-

Meanwhile a notorious guerrilla commander in' Indian-held Kashmir, Mat Oul threatened Friday to take his war against India to Bombay and New Delhi.

of Charar-i-Sharif last May. recruit fighters.

next few weeks.

Mr. Gul, a Pakistani national. who also fought in Afghanistan during the Soviet "We need manpower not resolutions and confer-

> pour while Mr. Gul railed against both India and Pakis-

NEW YORK (Agencies) of the two officers, both Secretary of State Warren Christopher has demanded an investigation into why two U.S. Air Force officers arrested and expelled by China this week were sent there at all, The New York Times

tion officials also speculated that the arrest of the two The Times, quoting senior U.S. administration officials. said Mr. Christopher had complained in telephone calls Washington from Asia where he is currently travellership, the report said. ing about the Pentagon's de-

Chinese military sites" and suggested the arrest of the U.S. officers aimed to discredit the United States and derail talks between Mr. Christopher and his Chinese counterpart. Qian Qichen.

and win the quick release," of U.S. human rights activist "The timing was incredibly bad and someone should explain why," one official was Dwayne Florenzie, were exquoted by the daily as saying. pelled after being caught in a The report said the arrest restricted military zone in

southeast China.

Christopher seeks probe into officers' arrest in China

The U.S. Defence Department said Thursday that the two U.S. officers were on a mission authorised by Beijing, but stopped short of formally denying Beijing's charges the two men were

that China's expulsion of the two officers would not derail attempts to get Sino-U.S. relations back on track. There is no reason why this incident should affect the forward momentum in our relations," Mr. Christopher

Also Thursday, Mr. Christ-

opher said in Kuala Lumpur

said, hours after the two attaches returned to their base in Hong Kong from China. Meanwhile, Beijing attacked Friday an essay in the latest issue of the U.S. magazine Time, blasting article's call for containment of China

plot to subvert China's Communist government. This strange essay is strange in that it says through the mouth of a commentator things that some people in U.S. political circles want to say but are unwilling to say," the official People's Daily said in a commentary.

"It reveals a plot to 'contain' and even 'subvert' the legal Chinese government," the commentary said. "This is a confession of hegemonism and power politics."

The commentary reflected internal Chinese suspicions. especially among the military, that Washington is trying to contain China by opposing Beijing's entry to the World Trade Organisation and limiting its military mod-ernisation by restricting technology transfers.

Chinese analysts say the military anxiety is an underlving factor in Beijing's fury at the United States for allowing President Lee Teng-Hui to make a private visit in June, sending relations into a tailspin.

ican, one German and a behind the kidnappings of the the Kashmiri pilgrimage town SRINAGAR. India (Agen-Norwegian were abducted in hostages, its negative impact cies) - A leading Kashmiri

We, therefore, appeal to the kidnappers in the name of humanity, and in these days when we are celebrating the birthday of Prophet Mohammad, to release the Western tourists unharmed im-

the occasion of Prophet's birthday, it will be construed as going against the teachings of the Holy Prophet," he Muslims in the troubled

Aug. 10. Two Britons, one AmerPahalgam, 90 kilometres

Famous for his involvement in a ftery three-day battle with Indian police in

Mr. Gul labelled the fiveyear-old uprising in Indian Kashmir of Jihad or holy war. Mr. Gul told the Islamabad rally he was in Pakistan to "If you are not fighting, you are not a Muslim." said

ences," he said. "We need money and arms. It is a Jihad (holy war). About 12,000 men sat through a monsoon downattached to the U.S. consulate in Hong Kong, had created a rift between the State Department and the Pentagon and reflected "disarray" in U.S. policy on China. Several senior administra-

officers was evidence of increasing power among Chinese military hardliners within the country's lead-It said Western military attaches "routinely observe

China had said Colonel Joseph Wei Chan, the air force liaison officer at the U.S. consulate general in Hong Kong, and his deputy.

as revelation of an American

Feat

By Wendy Lev

When speaking

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New bonds after Qatar

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein's visit to Qatar for talks with Sheikh Hamad Ben Khalifah has to be seen as part and parcel of other visits that the King has made recently and will make soon to several Arah capitals in a bid to improve inter-Arab relations. The fact that it took place in the wake of the equally successful visit to Cairo for talks with President Hosni Muharak reflects Jordan's concern to put Arab relations on a more positive and constructive path. Amman has for many years enjoyed the best of relations with Doha even in the aftermath of the Gulf crisis in 1990 when Arah relations became tense and trouhled hy the fallout from the Iraqi invasion and occupation of Kuwait. Obviously, the importance of the talks between King Hussein and the new Emir of Qatar transcends in significance the usual attempts to consolidate the already good relations between the two countries and clearly aims for a wider objective that affects the entire Arab Nation. The joint communique that was issued at the end of the visit gives clear expression to this comprehensive goal. On the hilateral level, the two countries have decided to establish a joint committee to be headed by the foreign ministers to develop further the strong relationship that exists between the two sides. On the level of peace in the Middle East, the two leaders insisted that only a comprehensive and just peace in the region could ensure permanent peace hetween Israel and the Arab World. There is a clear message to Israel in this agreement. The situation of Iraq, above all Iraq's unity and independence which must be safeguarded at all costs, was also addressed. On Islamic front, the Bosnian conflict was prominently addressed with a clear call for an effective ending of Serbian aggression against Bospian Muslims and others.

It goes without saying that Qatar is an mportant Arab state in the Gulf region and can be instrumental in eliminating the residues of the Gulf war on the Arab level. Doha has been sensitive to the plight of the Iraqi people all along and continues to play a significant, role in the rehabilitation of Iraq and its people into the Arab Nation. It has also shown better understanding of the Jordanian stance on Iraq throughout the past several years. The enlightened Qatari perspective on Arab and regional issues does not go hy unappreciated hy Amman. This country will continue therefore to pin great hopes on even stronger Qatari-Jordanian ties as a nucleus for broader and deeper Arah contacts that could serve the needs of the new era in the Arah history.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A WRITER in Al Dustour cautioned Baghdad against defying Rolf Ekeus, the U.N. envoy responsible for ensuring Iraq's elimination of mass destruction weapons. The present confrontation, said Taher Al Adwan, is not between Iraq and the United Nations but rather between Baghdad and Washinghton; and defying Mr. Ekeus by saying that he has only until the end of August to submit his final report and end his mission would be employed by the United States as a pretext for perpetuating the sanctions on Iraq. Iraq is not in need of stirring a new crisis with the United States, which now stands isolated in the Security Council in its adamant stand with regard to the lifting of the embargo, said the writer. He said that all that Iraq needs to do is to keep up the pressure on the United States through its own allies and through the other U.N. Security Council member nations in order to end the sanctions, suggested the writer. It will be a wise step on the part of the Iraqi government to maintain its diplomatic offensive at the world level, proving by word and deed that it has complied with all U.N. resolutions and deserves an end to the embargo clamped since 1990, said the writer. He said that Baghdad should not give Washington a presext to maintain the sanctions and an excuse to further starve the Iraqi

Al Ra'i Arabic daily discussed Jordanian relations with the Arab Gulf states in general and ties between Qaiar and the Kingdom in particular in the light of His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Doha. The King's visit to Qatar, the second to the Gulf state since the Gulf crisis, constitutes another Jordanian move towards ending differences among the Arabs and reviving solidarity among their countries vis-a-vis the common challenges, said the paper. The King's visit is a show of support for the new Qatari leadership and its young ruler who is dedicated towards strengthening his country's relations with the rest of the Arab World, added the paper. The visit is also a renewed effort on the part of the Kingdom to seek collective Arab action vis-a-vis the issues confronting Arab states and to deal with the requirements of the peace era in the Middle East, according to the paper. It is true that the Qatari-Jordanian relations have always been marked by strong brotherly relations and close cooperation and understanding in various fields, but this visit in particular, added the paper, is seen not only as seeking even stronger ties but also as reflecting the Kingdom's serious endeavours to bolster inter-Arab ties and boost cooperation between Jordan and the Gulf states.

Jordanian Perspective

Hard work needed to lure investors

WE HAVE been hearing increased calls from international experts in recent days that Jordan should move fast and set the ground to attract foreign capital through, first, making the legislative climate in the Kingdom conducive to foreign

We also heard that Jordan should launch a strong awareness campaign in the U.S. as well as in Europe and the Far East to inform potential investors there of husiness opportunities in the Kingdom.

The time has come to ask a serious question to all of us. whether in government, the legislature or any other walk of life: What have we done to set the climate right for international interest in Jordan? Are we naive to think that international capital would come to Jordan simply hecause those who have it love the Kingdom so much?

Obviously not. But that does not address the core problem, and that has more to do with our mindset than anvthing else.

It would seem that the awareness that Jordan is on the threshold of a new economic era after reaching peace with Israel and proving its firm commitment to the international principles of coexistence on the hasis of mutual respect has only penetrated the minds of a few businessmen. Very few others, for all practical purposes, seem to appreciate the fact that there is indeed international interest in Jordan but it is largely up to Jordanians to translate that interest into tangible economic benefits for all concerned in an atmosphere of free market enterprise.

Instead what we see is procrastination on the part of some legislators who oppose "normalisation" of relations with Israel, apathy and lethargy on the part of most bureaucrats and a general indifference on the part of many

Against this hackdrop, the Jordanian, on the street has every right to be concerned. After all, it is clear what Jordan and its people face today could be a make-or-break opportunity, and if we fail to rise to the challenges of the day then the opportunity will slip away from our fingers.

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit, to be held in October, is indeed one of the key fora where Jordan could forward its ideas and establish firm contacts with people who matter in international business. But it is imperative that we have the right laws that offer the right incentives to capital and offer a reasonable structure of taxation and other regulations in place by the time the summit is convened.

Judging from the pace of things that we are seeing today. there is a lot of uncertainty over the fate of the draft laws on companies, investments and income tax. The draft laws hav enot even been disecussed by Parliament, with three months to go before the MENA summit. We don't know where the delay is, but that is besides the point, simply because the most important thing is to have those laws. which are very crucial to create investment climate. dehated, amended as our representatives find fit and enacted at the earliest possible date.

The obvious stagnation in the Amman Financial Market (AFM) owes itself largely to the uncertainty in the air over the laws. Many investment decisions are held back simply because the investors do not have a clear idea of what kind of liberalisation they would be facing and what kind of incentives/problems they might encounter once they commit their funds.

It was very telling when American experts said recently that Jordan, despite its key role in the politics of the Middle East and the courageous step it has taken to make peace with Israel, is not well-known among the U.S. business community. Isn't it time we did something about that? However, whatever is done should not be a one-time shot. Every campaign that Jordan launches in the international business scene should be accompanied by strong support in terms of information about the country, what it stands for and what it offers to capital.

Organising a show here and another there is not the answer. Well-focused and consistent cumpaigns aimed at specific business communities are.

We do have highly qualified people among us who can organise these things. But somehow, it seems, they get overlooked when it comes to actual decisions.

Those who are in a position to propel Jordan and Jordanians into the new era of economic prosperity shoulder their responsibilities well. Those who cannot do the job well should make room for others who can.



THE WEEK IN PRINT

Hamas is a liberation movement that the U.S. should respect, not antagonise

By Elia Nasrallah

THE LOCAL Arabic press last week focused on the arrest of a Hamas leader in the United States, the peace process, the situation in the occupied Palestinian lands, domestic affairs and the situation in the former Yugoslavia.

The arrest of Mousa Abu Marzuk contradicts Washingtoo's claim that it is an unbiased sponsor of the Middle East peace process: and is something that should be condemned by Arab and Muslim nations, said Taher Al Adwan in Al Dustour. Stressing that the arrest and the possible extradition of the Hamas political leader to Israel are bound to undermine the peace process, the writer said that Hamas and Abu Marzuk represent a liberation movement like all others around the globe and are not terrorist groups whose actions are simply aimed at killing or harming innocent persons. Demanding that Abu Marzuk be immediately released the writer said the Americans will be doing a great deal of barm to their relations with Arab and Muslim countries should they persisted in their present stand.

Hamas is a political movement intent on liberating the occupied Arab territories and is following normal resistance activities to achieve that goal, said Mahmoud Rimawi in Al Ra'i. Abu Marzuk who has not carried any activity beyond the political sphere in his drive to promote the Palestinian cause abroad, is not a terrorist neither is he acting to harm the United States or any other country in the world, said the writer. His arrest, said the writer, is bound to lay further Obstacles io the path of a settlement between Israel and the Palestinians at a time when the parties concerned with the peace process are struggling to achieve a lasting settlement. The writer said that the United States, which is sponsoring the peace process, should realise that Abu Marzuk's arrest is bound to highten tension and ought to act in a manner that woold be most conmı semement, The arrest of Abu Mar-

zuk io the United States should be considered as a hostile action against the Arab and Muslim nations, said Bassam Emoush a writer in Al Ra'i. Instead of opening a dialogue with the Hamas leader who can best present the Palestinian case to the outside world, Washington has chosen to arrest the man at a time when it claims it is giving momentum to the peace process, said the writer. There can be no reason for the arrest except to appease the Jews and the Zionist lobby in America, which succumb to Israel's wishes and executes its orders, charged the writer, who is also a member of of the Islamic Action Front Party and member of the Lower House of Parliament. Hamas is a resistance movement and not a terrorist group and its aims it to seek the liberation of Palestine. added the writer. Io his capacity as Hamas political leader. Abu Marzuk has committed no sin and has not violated any of the United States laws to justify his arrest, said the writer, who demanded the man's immediate release.

Even without extraditing Abu Marzuk to Israel. there can be no justification for his arrest in the United States, simply because the man has not committed any crime or violated any rules. said Yasser Zaatreh, a col-umnist in Al Dustour. Indeed, the arrest can be inlerpreted as a provocation against the feelings of the Arabs and Muslims and violation of all oorms and laws, said the writer. Saying that the arrest can serve no purpose for the United States or the American people, the writer advised the U.S. administration to reconsider its action and to regard Abu Marzuk as a political leader of a resistance movement like other movements which Washington has been claiming to be keen on safeguarding their rights to freedom.

Commenting on the recent escalation of Jewish settlers activities in the occupied Arab lands, a writer in Al Ra'i said that the settlers, who continue to feeble resistance from the Israeli government and are not deterred by any laws or rules. Of course, the settlers want no expansion of the self-rule, which gives the Palestinians wider control of Palestinian lands and so they resort to actions that are bound to delay the implementation of agreements with the Palestinians under the Oslo deal, said Mahmoud Rimawi. It goes without saying that the Israeli government is capable of ending the settlers' illegal activities but it seems that the Rabin government is intent on perpetuating a situation in which settlers can continue their clashes with the police in order to justify the delay in implementing the second phase of the self-rule agreement, said the writer. Un-

The implementation of the next phase of the selfrule in Palestine means that the future of the 140,000 settlers living in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip goes under scrutiny by the Palestinian and the Israeli negotiators, said Ali Safadi, a writer in Al Dustour daily. One sign of imminent events that will mark future developments in Palestine

less these settlers are check-

ed, the peace process will

remain hanging in the ba-

lance, he added.

was an invitation by a cabinet mimster, Shalumit Aloni, to the settlers to accept compensation for their homes in the settlements and voluntarily leave the Arab lands, said the writer. While the peace now movement continues to call for the dismantling of the settlements, the Israeli government has been complaining of the high cost of ensuring security for the settlements under a final agreement with the Palestinians, said the writer. Saying that the settlers are putting up stiff resistance to the idea leaving the West Bank, the writer said that they have been stirring trouble for the government. which, he said, should take firm action against such defiance which could ruin all

chances for peace with the

Palestinians.

Criticising the government for announcing rules market and doing oothing in practice to apply them, Mohammad Subeihi, a writer in Al Dustour, said that a law that cannot be implemented is a dead law. The writer said that there is need for firm control over the situation since the foreign workers are found in great numbers and are practically taking the jobs of the Jordanian citizens and there is also need for cooperation with the concerned authorities on the part of the public and the employers. It is necessary for the government to deal promptly with the foreign workers issue and so help deal with unemployment in the Kingdom, said the writer.

A writer in Al Ra'i suggested that the government undertake a series of drastic measures to overhaul the educational system in Jordan. Calling for immediate action and copying the models of education in advanced nations. Khaled Al Saket said that the Ministry of Education should modernise educational administration, pump young blood into the process of reforming the system, increase allocations required for the introduction of modern technology and employ qualified people to handle this process.

A writer in Al Dustour

expressed disappointment that the mayors, who have been recently elected, do not show any interest in assuming a political stand in addition to caring for municipal services. Fakhri Kawar said that the mayors ought to represent their own communities not only socially and in terms of municipal services but also politically as the voters had hoped. Citing the example of the mayor of Eilat in Israel, who, he said, declared his outright rejection of the expansion of the Palestinian self-rule, the writer said that the mayors should try to reflect the feelings of their respective communities. The mayors, he added, ought to undertake action that can enhance the democratic process and reflect the public views in all matters of pub-

lic concern.

West laments lost 'golden age' of Gulf war harmony

By Nicholas Doughty Reuter

LONDON - When 'Iraq invaded Kuwait five years ago, it managed - unwittingly - to create something unique in modern his-

for a brief period follow-ing the end of the cold war, the United States and the Soviet Union enjoyed a "golden age" of cooperation that reached its climax

during the Gulf crisis.

Praise flowed for a reiuvenated United Nations, no longer hobbled by super-power rivalry, and Western leaders celebrated the triumph of buman rights and democracy over aggres-.

In a remark that was to become famoos just after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, U.S., president George Bush proclaimed:

"Out of these troubled times... a new world order an emerge a new era, freci from the threat of terror, stronger in the pursuit of iustice and more secure in the quest for peace."

Five years on, no one talks like that. Chaos and doubt have replaced certainty and hope.

The "line in the sand" drawn so clearly by the Allies in Kuwait has been all but erased in the mud of Bosnia and Chechenya, swamped by the bloodshed in Rwanda.

'We know now what everyone suspected at the time - that the Gulf crisis and the war that followed were exceptions in military and political terms, a brief fluke that could not be repeated," said one senior European diplomat.

That brief age of international cooperation in 1990 did bring some direct gains. including the start of a Middle East peace process that has borne fruit against all

odds. But the rest of the balance sheet looks fairly bleak.

President Boris Yeltsin's Russia has proven to be a far less cooperative partner for the West than president Mikhail Gorbachev's Soviet Union.

Moscow asserts its independence now, resentful of being seen as a former superpower. Eastern European states fear that Russia may yet plunge back into a dictatorship and turmoil.

The United States, confident in leading the world against Iraq and flushed with its triumph over Communism, is uncertain of its global role and showing signs of isolationism that worry its Allies and undermine the NATO alliance. The United Nations,

celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, is strapped for cash and stretched by a record number of peacekeeping operations around the world. Bosnia has taken away much of the U.N. and NATO's credibility.

While Iraq's invasion of Kuwait was a clear case of one state invading another, messy ethnic conflicts in the post-cold war world have been much less easy to set-

Arguments still rage over whether the war in Bosnia is a civil war or a war of aggression started by Serbia. Moscow insists the war in breakaway Chechenya is no one else's business, since the region is part of Russia and not an independent state.

In a world where borders fragment and oew nations bave emerged, the international community bas been faced by difficult decisions about when to intervece,

For the first time, the Uoited Nations tried to rebuild a nation by sending troops into Somalia. It failed disastrously. In Rwanda, the world stood by and watched as bundreds of thousands were butch-ered to a frenzy of ethnic

batred. When Iraq invaded Kuwait, the European Community was preparing what it hoped would be a new era of political and economic in

the Maastricht Treaty. Five years on, the European Union - as it is now called - has scaled down its ambitions in the face of popular opposition or apathy. Lofty visions are no longer welcome. The Europeans have been unable to take over the U.S. leadership role.

"The United Nations, celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, is strapped for cash and stretched by a record number of peacekeeping operations around the world. Bosnia has taken away much of the U.N. and NATO's credibility."

The breakup of Yugoslaia and the wars that bave followed since 1991 have poisoned all of the major European security organisations NATO, the European Union, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

They were not ready to deal with such a complex conflict in the heart of Europe, let alone to handle other wars fought on the fringes of the old Soviet empire which have been largely ignored by the West.

No one has found new models of international cooperation or ways of dealing with conflicts that defy attempts to stop them with traditional peacekeeping methods.

By contrast, the Gulf war high-technology weaponry, the terrain flat and unobtrusive as a computer model, the enemy lines clearly laid out for the Allies.

Five years on, there is a lot of nostalgia around.

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The Croaties

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By Wendy Levitt

HOW ACCURATELY

can one assess support for

the various political forces

in the West Bank and

Gaza? When speaking of

the Islamist opposition, for

example, both academics

and journalists bave

seemed to pluek figures out

of the air, with assurances

that Hamas could count on

grassroots support of 15 or

25 or 40 per cent of the

population (or even in

some cases 50 per cent in

the Gaza Strip). The pun-dits own political persua-

sions may have had a major

bearing on the figures. But the fact that they could

hazard such varied inter-pretations of the public

mood is due to the fact that

we have few reliable

criteria for making an in-

formed judgement. We

don't actually know. Before Oslo, analysts re-

lied primarily on the resutls

of minor elections in the

occupied territories. Ooe-

off polls were published at

irregular intervals. Then, as the dialogue with Israel

made a new, if fitful, start

with the Madrid conference

in the autumn of 1991, the

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DAY, AUGUST S, IN

By Dr. Musa Keiler,

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In a world where beg agment and new name ive emerged, the inter anal community has b ced by difficult deep sout when to intens For the first time, nited Nations ined to sild a nation by sens OODS 1710 Somalia iled diraitroush wanda, the world a / and watched as bes thousands were to red in a frenzy of c

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Five years on the

Assessing Palestinian public opinion business of political rallies

(spontaneous, planned or a mixture of both) began to assume a "pro" or "anti" settlement character, translated on the ground into a Fateh-Hamas contest. None of these methods

of counting heads could ever be more than the roughest of guides to popular sentiment, not least because of the volatility of the public mood in response to political events. Alongside this, the particular characteristics of each election. poll or rally occded to be taken into account.

Since Oslo, opinion testing has increased in quantity and sophisticatioo. In particular, Nablus boasts a serious scientific establishment, the Centre for Palesnoe Research and Studies (CPRS), directed by Khalil Shikaki, which poblishes detailed monthly reports on Palestinian views on a range of topics.

If the trend of the last few years was to inflate the Islamists' influence, the CPRS (and other institutions) have come up with many conclusions. In its 16th opinion poll in March

1995, the CPRS found that 49.4 per cent of Gazans and West Bankers supported Fatch (with 56.5 per cent backing Arafat personally as head of the Palestine National Authority), as opposed to 12.4 per cent for Hamas and 2.t per cent for Islamic Jihad. Thirteen per cent were undecided; at all the smaller PLO fac-

tions fared badly, the high-

est score - under four per

cent - going to the PFLP.

A poll one month earlier by the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme gave Fatch 33.4 per cent and Hamas 19.3, with 4.1 per cent for Jibad - figures closer to the traditional assessment. But the CPRS' findings have consistently over the months shown high ratings for Fatch and low one for Islamists. Itself surprised by its findings, the centre doubled its March sample in Hebron, supposedly a stronghold of the Islamist opposition. But there Fatch scored its highest figure in any CPRS

Accounting for Arafat's popularity

poll to date.

Dr. Shikaki attributes

the findings to a combina-tion of factors since the University in Juoe. The CPRS predicted a 42 per start of the year up to cent vote for Fatch and 33 per cent for a combined March: no major blunders by the PNA, a decrease in Islamic ticket. In the event settlement activity and a each side won 39 seats, sense of optimism about with the remaining three prospects for elections and going to the Popular Front. Israeli redeployment. The Other recent student feel-good factor was de-

elections bave produced mixed results. At Bethliberately fostered by the increasingly professional lehem University, Fatch, running with the People's Palestinian radio station. while the local papers bave Party, won seven out of nine council seats. At Jeruremained quiescent since Mr. Arafat made it clear salem University, a Hamasthat he would brook no Jihad coalinon took all nine dissent. seats. At the former nationalist stronghold of Still, questions remain. Bir Zeit (where Fateh suf-How many people are likefered a dramatic rout in ly to speak openly, given a November 1993 by an antitradicional deference to au-Oslo alliance of the Islamists with the Popular and abundance of police of one Democratic Fronts), Fatch sort or another in the areas campaigoed vigorously, of Palestinian self-rule (one

for every 50 Gazans) and a

cononuing Israeli presence elsewhere? A senior CPRS

researcher suggested that

an extra five per cent

By Dave Carpenter

The Associated Press

YEKATERINBURG Russia — Traffic roars past the spot where Russia's last

Czar and his family met a grisly end nearly eight de-

cades ago. Construction materials litter the largely

The sins of Russia's past

and present are colliding in

this Ural mountains city.

where despite years of de-

bate and fund raising there

is no permanent memorial

to one of history's most

and apathy - mirroring the

nation's contemporary

problems — all are to

Even the purported chief

executioner has a more im-

pressive monument than

the victims' meager one. "It's a pity," said Alexei

Katayev, a local history

buff looking over the un-

kempt and nearty descried

Corruption, confusion

infamous killings.

vacant lot.

Although student elec-tions are the most directly should be added to Hamas' ratings on this count. politicised of the various The need for such an tocal elections in the West adjustment was highlighted Bank and Gaza, there are by the centre's poll pub-lished just before the stunonetheless other factors at play: the organisation and dent elections at Al Najah intensity of the campaign,

Front in third place).

tions, the charisma of candidates, and specific issues which do not relate to national politics. A quesnon that also needs asking, however, is to what extent do students represent the rest of the population."

In other elections for professional and trade bodies, the specificity factor is even greater. Results cannot be ruled in or out as a blanket guide to feelings on the peace process and the polincal players. The circumstances of different elections reveal a rich tapestry of politikiog and local concerns: not least, voting for the best man for the job, regardless of political orientation. If local elections are to be a guide to popular opinion, each disassociating itself from has to be examined on a the PNA, and won 21 councase-by-case basis. cil seats, against 18 for the Islamists (with the Popular

Courting the don'tknows

Since the creanon of the PNA, opinion polls have recorded a growing number of "don't knows" (13 per cent in the CPRS poll in March 1995). This constituency is being wooed by a

spate of independent challengers seeking to establish new political groupings. Not less than nine political figures have set themselves up in opposition to Mr. Arafat in recent months.

The most impressive of these contenders is Haidar Abdul Shafi, former head of the Red Cresceot in Gaza whiled the delegtion during the Madrid process. In its February poll, the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme asked people for their preference as leader of the PNA; Abd Al Shafi managed only third place (although this was before he formally threw bis hat into the ring with the formation of bis Movement for Building Democracy), behind Ahmad Yasin of Hamas with 19.3 and Mr. Arafat with 34.4

Mr. Arafat also faces opposicoo within his own Fatch movement which has not thus far been quantified. This is both on the outside (led by Farouk Kaddoumi and others) and on the inside, where Marwao Barghuti, head of Fateh on the West Bank, is stridently critical of the

PNA leadership. However, Mr. Arafat's immediate concern is with the Islamic opposition. Only if Hamas takes part in the national elections will its numerical strength be established, although it has demonstrated its ability to mobilise the masses in opposition to the PNA.

Perhaps, the long awaited elections will unlock the key to a better understanding of Palestinian public opinion. But ooe constituency whose voice will not be heard is that of the diaspora outside. Disenchantmeot and a sense of betrayal at Mr. Arafat's Oslo deal with its slender rewards will go unre-corded. One unlikely outcome of the Palesonians' tragically fragmented history, and its impact on their attitude, is the prospect of Hamas preparing itself for power-sharing with the PNA while one-time Arafat loyalists, dispersed throughout the region and beyond, continue to wait for the return of Jaffa and

Middle East International:



Crost and Serb delegations to the Geneva talks ance towards the Serb rebels capital of Kniz that broke down Friday following Crost adv- (AFP photo)

Conflict threatens all-out war

(Continued from page 1)

by the Serb-dominated Yugoslav army — captured a third of Croatia's land, most of it in the boomerangshaped Krajina region curving around the northern bor-

der of Bosnia. An uneasy truce had held since January 1992. Last May, Croatian troops recaptured the most weakly defended chunk of Serb-held land in central Croatia in a two-day blitz. The Serbs rocketed Zagreb in retaliation, killing seven people and wounding almost 200.

Although Friday's attack threatened to reignite all-out war, there was no immediate sign that the iremnants of Yugoslavia, dominated by Serbia, would enter the fray.

Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, intent on ending U.N. sanctions, has turned from his early support of rebel Serb causes in Croatia and Bosnia to tout peace. Friday's attack increased speculation that Croatian President Franjo Tudjman had won a promise from Milosevic not to inter-

Slobodan Jarcevic, an adviser to the rebel Serbs in Croatia, acknowledged that his side does "not expect that Yuoslavia will enter the war to defend us.

The Croatian offensive struck along a wide stretch of the front line.

Col. Leslie said jets bombed the town of Gracac, about 40 kilometres northwest of Knin, and the area around Gospic, about 80 kilometres north of Knin. There were reports Croadan troops were crossing the front

line near Gospic. Croats also shelled Serb positions at Petrinja in the northern part of the Serbheld territory, and the rebels reported one civilian killed and two wounded. Serbs responded by shelling areas around the towns of Sisak and Karlovac, and claimed to have destroyed three Croat

Zagreb hit

Warning sirens sounded for a second time Friday in the Croatian capital Zagreb. less than one hour after a missile landed in the outskirts

The alert sounded at 7:45 Croatian radio announced

earlier that a luna missile had

Croatia.

struck the capital's outskirts mission for Refugees. at 7:00 p.m. (1700 GMT).

Croat, Bosnian

cooperation Bosnian army soorces told the Associated Press that their forces in northwestern Bosnia were advancing westward toward the Croatian border, in cooperation with Croat forces against the Serbs. The claim could not be

independently confirmed. The movement heightened concerns further that warfare io both countries will develop into an even bloodier Balkan conflict.

The Croatian offensive was launched two weeks after Bosnian and Croatian leaders pledged to bolster military

cooperation. Under U.S. auspices last year, the Bosnian and Croaoan government put aside their animosity from a 1993-94 war and forged an alliance against their common foe, ethnie Serb rebels, in both

former Yugoslav republics. That cooperation had helped relieve pressure last week on Bosnia's Muslim-led army, which lost two enclaves, along with hundreds possibly thousands — of fighters and civilians in east-

ern Bosnia in the last month. But the cooperation carries risk. Some Bosnians and U.N. sources say a successful Croatia may turn its attention back again to slicing up Bosnia with neighbouring Serbia, a centuries-old pattern in the

"Of course I'm bappy for the Croat advances. But I hope they will know when to stop and not confinue to create greater Croatia, 'said Ramiz Skender, a 58-yearold former factory worker in

Most Sarajevans followed word of the Croatian offensive on its rebel Serbs on television and radio, and many expressed satisfaction that rebel Serbs were now subjected to the shelling that has been common in this city for most of the past three

vears. Speaking to reporters in Sarajevo, U.N. spokesman Alexander Ivanko warned of a possible "military spillover and humanitarian catastrophe" from the fighting in

"We're preparing for an influx of Serb refugees. perhaps tens of thousands," said Mans Nyberg, spokesman for the U.N. High Com-

Already, UNHCR officials bave counted scores of cars and trucks filled with Serb civilians moving into western Bosnia from Croatia, Mr. Hyberg said. The UNCHR and the International Red Cross say they have amassed food and materials to care for

An estimated 13,000 Serb refugees - the largest movement of Serbs in Bosnian since warfare began three years ago - fled across central Bosnia in recent days following the initial Croat

Russia warns NATO

In Moscow, Russia's chief negotiator in former Yugoslavia warned NATO on Friday against military involvemeot in Bosnia saying this could trigger a major war in the Balkans, Interfax news agency said.

'Any military involvement in the Bosnian conflict, whether unilateral NATO action or the use of rapid reaction forces under U.N. auspices, is most undesirable." Mr. Alexander Zotov told Interfax.

"Any such step could lead to a complete loss of control over the situation in the region and in fact could become an invitation to a broader war," said Mr. Zotov, President Boris Yeltsin's personal envoy to former Yugoslavia. Earlier on Friday, Russia

issued a tough statement condemning Croatia's offensive. Russia said Zagreb's largescale military action could trigger a bigger conflict. which would involve other parts of former Yugoslavia,

U.S. 'regrets'

The United States expressed regret Friday that Croatia had abandoned peace efforts and launched a military offensive against separadsts

"The United States regrets this resort to force," said State Department spokesman David Johnson. "We have called on all sides to exercise restraint and respect the safety of civilians, (war prisoners) and especially peacekeep-

Mr. Johnson repeated carlier assertions that Croatia's involvement could trigger a "larger war" in the Balkans, and he called on the country's leaders to go back to the negotiating table.

plans at Czar's murder site where Nicholas II, his wife Alexandra, their five children and four attendants were murdered in

"It should be properly marked and registered." he said. "People should remember what happened

here. A metal cross, a small memorial stone, a chipped sign appealing for donations and the abandoned framework of a tiny chapel stand on the plateau overlooking this industrial city of 1.3 million people. During the Communist era, it was named Sverdlovsk after the official who arranged

the murders. It was here on July 17 1918, that a Bolshevik firing squad, on orders from Vladimir Lenin, shot the exiled royal family in the basement of a nobleman's house. The remains were dumped in an abandoned

mine outside town. The KGB ordered the building razed in 1977 because it feared the house would become a pilgrimage

Intrigues, apathy block memorial

A decade later, in the age of glasnost, services were finally allowed at the site. and authorities and the Russian Orthodox Church

agreed that a full-scale memorial should be built. Proposals were grandiose: a museum, a hotel, a seminary wall calendars even depicted a magnificent white marble Cathedral there.

The site was given in 1990 to the church, which had close ties to the Czars. A "substantial amount" of money reportedly was raised, but it vanished two vears ago.

Prosecutors are investigating accusations that the chief fund-raiser, a policeman tutned cletgyman. spent the money on "drinks and debauches. City and church leaders

blame each other for the failure to crect a memorial. "The city is all in favour

of this project, but there ' just isn't enough money for it," said Maya Mikhailova, a city spokeswoman, "We believe the church bears more responsibility.

Bishop Nikon, the prelate of Yekaterinburg, declined to say how much the church has raised recently. The day he met with a reporter, a bulldozer was paving a long church drive-way for a big celebration marking his 35th birthday.

"I have been feeling pressure from the many swindlers who want to get their hands on this money. but I have resisted," said the bishop, who conducts Saturday services at the

He said a small, temporary church would be erected within a year. "Believers and sponsors" should pay for a permanent

church, he said. Asked when that would happen, he said: "Maybe in 20 years, maybe in two years — according to God's

Like the memorial, the remains of the Czar's family have been in Limbo since they were unearthed in

American, British and Russian forensic scientists have positively identified them. But a special government commission has yet to issue a ruling that would clear the way for burial in St. Petersburg, the former imperial capital. Public interest seems to

bave faded, but the Czar's fate still strikes some nerves in Yekaterinburg, Carnations and lilacs lay

near the memorial stone on a recent day.

in a wooded cemeters across town, vandals regularly strike the imposing tombstone of Pyotr Yermakov, the commissar claimed to have pulled the trigger on the Czar.

The same one-word message always is left on the grave, in blood-red paint: "Killer."

The tale of an escapee from Kashmiri militants

By Dilip Ganguly The Associated Press

WAKURA, India - A 19year-old girl, her tace co-vered by a black veil, looked around and suddenly stopped under a huge chinar tree. Nearly a dozen armed Indian soldiers looked on.

> walked past them and about 100 village elders seated on the lawns of a school building. Then she stood in front of an Indian army general. From heneath her long flowing black dress, she took out a sophisticated Japanese radio set and put it down next

Parveena Akhtad slowly

to assorted weapons general purpose machine guns. AK-57 rifles, rocket tols and ammunition.

and grenade launchers, pis-No one applauded. But

Major General Datre Dalaje Shekatkar, the top Indian military officer at Wakura, a farming village of 10,000 peuple located 40 kilometres north of Srinagar, heaved a sigh of relief.

On Tuesday, 26 militants, including Ms. Akhtad who joined the separatist campaign when she was 14, laid down their arms.

The event - the fourth in the past one year -- was organised by the Indian military which has been tighting a separatist campaign by Kashmiri militants since 1989. Most of a dozen rebel groups favour an independent Kashmir. India controls (wo-thirds of Kashmir and Pakistan the remaining one-third.

The popular support for the militants campaign in Kashmir remains wide-

spread. In the last one year. India has released several leaders of pro-separatist groups in a hid to win over their support and hold state legislative elections in Jammu-Kashmir state, the only Muslim majority state in a predominantly Hindu In-

Some of those who laid down the arms said they were disillusioned with the fighting. Some said mercenaries from Pakistan and Afghanisian have taken over the campaign from the Kashmiris. India says it will not grant

independence to Kashmir and has despatched at least MALIERI troops to crush the campaign, which has taken 13.000 lives in the last five years. Under a new strategy, the Indian army is trying to woo the militants by promis-

lims, the ethnic cleansing

operations and other atroci-

ties the Serbs committed

against the Bosnian people.

tend help to the Bosnian

people the two sides

appealed to the world com-

munity to shoulder their re-

sponsibilities and end the

Serb aggression and lift the

arms embargo on the Bos-

nian people so that they can

acquire means of self de-

Voicing readiness to ex-

ing no trial and rehabilitation of those who give up arms. "When I was a kid. I

wanted to become a teacher." Ms. Akhtad told the Associated press after the arms laying ceremony was over. She is the youngest daughter of a hakery worker in Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu-Kashmir state. "Ours was a happy family with two other sisters and a brother. Mr father used to take us on picnics and we are cookies to our heart's delight." she said.

When she was 14, she was approached by a woman from her neighbourhood who told her that all Kashmiri Muslims must fight the Indian troops It a was February morning and snowing in Srinagar, Parveena left her home without telling anyone.

"I was taken to one of the training camps near Srinagar and was given a course in

radio operation." That was the beginning and she hundled communications for a militant outfit. "Though was tiring. I never felt had," she said.

But some events upset her. "l realised our (fighters) were also killing innocent people. I also saw some of them extorting money and sometimes killing cach other

for money," she said.
"I also saw Afghan and Pakistani (fighters) taking over the militant outfits. It was then I decided that t must quit." Ms. Akhtad said. She would not say how she

contacted the Indian military. "Tell me, can I now study to become a teacher." she

'Iraq can play positive role'

(Continued from page 1)

Amman and will create sub

committees and work teams to handle specific issues. The two sides expressed their backing to the Arab League's efforts to revive joint Arab action and end inter Arab differences and emphasised the need to

bolster security and stability

in the Gulf region. On Iraq the two sides expressed keenness on safeguarding Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity and praised Baghdad for recognising the state of Kuwait and its international boundaries in accordance with

U.N. Security Council Re-He was given a work permit solution 833 as a step in the right direction and the rein 1990. turn of security and stability been tracking him since the to the Gulf region.

Reviewing the Middle

East peace process the two

sides reaffirmed the need

for a comprehensive settle-

ment based on U.N. Secur-

and 338 and the return of all Arab lands occupied since 1967 in exchange for peace. They stressed that without these conditions peace cannot be durable or com-

or security can be guaranteed in the region. The two sides also expressed deep concern over the situation in Bosnia and condemned the Serb attacks on Bosnian Mus-

They said the FBI had

bombing and had him under

surveillance for at least six

Mr. Nejem appeared at a

months up to his arrest.

prehenisve and no stability

and said be wanted to go to Nejem the United States "to prove the justice of his case," the minister added. (Continued from page 1) The suspect agreed volun-Jordan to study civil engineering in Wichita, Kansas.

tarily to travel to the United States to defend himself in the case without having to go through the extradition formalities in line with the (Jordanian-American) extradition treaty...." Mr. Tell

Both governments ratified the extradition treaty last Amman court on Tuesday

Arafat, Peres to review talks (Continued from page 1)

troops away from Arab communifies and security mat-

An Israeli official close to the talks said the only progress made was on the transfer by Israel of civilian powers to the Palesonians. He confirmed that problems remained in security arrangements and troop redeploy-

ment.

Israel and the PLO are trying to hammer out an agreement that would allow

"Syria which has demanded the total return of the Golan...will never accept an Israeli presence on its territory," Damascus Radio said. It called on Israel to withdraw its demand "to clear the way for arrangements which

the Gaza-based Palestinian authorities to expand its con-

trol in the West Bank. Under its 1993 peace accord with the PLO, Israel agreed to pull out its forces from West Bank Palestinian population centres, hand over control to the Palestinian authority and allow the nearly two million Arabs to elect a governing council.

But Israel's concern over security for more than 100,000 Jewish settlers has delayed expansion of Palestinian self-rule.

Syria says (Continued from page 1)

will ensure the security of all

Israel's channel two TV reported Wednesday that Mr. Rabin has rejected U.S. requests to renew the ambassadorial talks immediately. "at the expense" of what he considers the more substan-.

tial military talks. Mr. Rabin spokeswoman Aliza Goren confirmed that the premier had instructed Israel's Washington embassy not to commit to any talks with the Syrians until a date was set for military talks.

UAE economic upturn keeps per capita income high

United Arab Emirates (UAE) has maintained its position as having one of the highest per capita incomes in the world after rapid economic growth in the past two

11.5.

ime

decades, officials said Friday. Although the population has grown by as much as 10 per ceot annually since 1975. per capita income remained above \$16,000 as the gross domestic product (GDP) grew faster than the population in some years.

The report by the central bank showed the UAE population surged to 1.3 million in 1985 and 2.23 million in 1994 from 558,000 in 1975, four years after the country was created from a merger of seven Gulf sheikhdoms.

The GDP also jumped from 39.6 billion dirhams (\$10.78 billion) to around 135 billion dirhams (\$36.78 billion), according to the report, carried by the official Emirates news agency WAM.

This showed the per capita

income dropped slightly to around 60,454 dirhams (\$16,472) from 69,800 (\$19,000), as the population started to grow faster than, the domestic economy...

The report gave no breakdown for growth in economic sectors but WAM quoted central bank chairman Mohammad Al Muraikhi as saying non-oil sectors had overtaken the oil sector despite a surge in crude exports. From 13.2 billion dirbams

(\$3.59 billion) in 1975, the

soared to 89.8 billion dirhams (\$24.4 billion) in 1994. This means its share of the total GDP rose from 33.8 per cent to 66.5 per cent. Oil exports increased from

GDP in the non-oil sector

\$419 million in 1971 to \$11.7 billion in 1994 because of a sharp rise in production. "The high growth rate in

the non-oil sector makes the UAE econcomy more stable which marked 29 years_of UAE President Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan's rule in Abu Dhabi.

The UAE, which now produces around 2.3 million bar-rels per day (b/d) of crude under an OPEC deal, has pumped an average of \$2 billion into development annually over the past two decades. Construction, industry, banking, trade, and water and electricity were the fastest growing sectors.

A recent study by the plan-ning ministry predicted the population would grow to 2.4 million by the end of 1995 and GDP to 137 billion dirhams (\$37.3 billion). Oil exports would also rise to 2.2 millioo b/d.

Around two thirds of the UAE's population are non-Arab Asians and other foreigners, who began to stream in after the discovery of oil in the early 1960s.

Sudan abolishes tax* on wheat imports

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan has abolished tax and customs duties on imported wheat as part of moves to make up for shortfalls in local production, a government newspaper said Friday.

Al Sudan Al Hadith said price controls on imported wheat flour had also been lifted and distribution channels for the wheat would be opened up. Flour mills would be free to choose the quantity of wheat they required, it

The paper gave no details of current duties and taxes levied on wheat imports. Last year Sudan's wheat

production accounted for just half of the 600,000 tonne.

requirement, despited the ever-increasing areas of land allocated by the government to growing wheat.

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Commerce Minister Taj Al Sir Mustafa said the government, already sbort of cash and fighting a 12-year civil war in the south, had to import over 200,000 tonnes.

Mr. Mustafa said this year the government was ready to pay a minimum price of 140,000 Sudanese pounds (\$245) per tonne for all locally produced wheat.

The paper also quoted In-dustry Minister Badr Al Din Suleiman as saying Sudan aimed to import 25,000 tonnes of wheat a month between November 1995 and

Dollar outlook unclear despite U.S.-Japan resolve

TOKYO (R) — Japan and the United States have shown fresh resolve to cooperate in boosting the dollar, but it is unclear whether teamwork alone will be enough to ensure a firm recovery in the U.S. currency, dealers said

"The U.S. and Japan are both concerned about keeping the dollar from harm. But until (things) change a bit more, it will be very difficult for the dollar to gain substantially," said Yasuji Yamanaka. a chief dealer at the Bank

Until the dollar makes it at least to 93 yen, 1 wouldn't say that trends have turned

ANKARA (AFP) — A new five-year plan passed last month will double Turkey's

growth rate and decentralise

administration for the first

time, Prime Minister Tansu

Terming the country's

seventh plan "very different"

from previous ones, Ms. Cil-

ler said it concentrated on

Turkey's economic improve-

"Two years ago, our main

preoccupation was terrror-

ism," she told reporters.

Now, it is very different.

Economy is at the forefront,

we must go through economy

to solve the terrorism prob-

lem;" said Ms. Ciller, an

Turkey has been battling

separatist Kurdish militants

in the southeast for the past

11 years. At least 20,000 peo-

them soldiers, militants and

civilians, official figures say.

The fighting has also sev-

Killed, amon

economist by training.

Ciller said Friday.

around," another dealer said. Although the two countries have previously worked together to strengthen the dollar, most recently in joint intervention on July 7, this time was different, dealers

They cited Japan's announcement Wednesday of

The deregulatory packge which included scrapping limits on insurers' participation in syndicated loans and on their foreign currency loans to overseas borrowers. lifted the dollar above the

erely undermined the mainly

Kurdish southeast's economy

with many villagers and far-

mers fleeing the area to

urban centers in central and

western Turkey.

Ms. Ciller said under the

new plan, the average growth rate per year would jump

from 3.5 to seven per cent.

Exports would increase from

\$20 billion a year to \$44

billion by the end of the

The plan also aims at in-

Parliament approved the

creasing the tourism income

from to \$14 billion year from

five-year plan about ten days

ago, but it was not given

much prominence in the

media, apparently leading

Ms. Ciller to call a news

Stressing that the "most

tisation," Mr. Ciller said the

country's regional leaders

would enjoy more power.

conference on the issue.

the present \$4.5 billion.

plan's term.

important

key 90 ven resistance level during Asian time. gains were then ex-

tended in New York Wednesday when the Federal Reserve intervened in foreign exchange markets, joining Tokyo in buying dollars for

announcement of the Japanese package, it just would have been the same old (unsuccessful) pattern."

U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin hailed Japan's

"This is the first time the plan

calls for decentralisation, for

the increase in local adminis-

Local and regional admi-

nistrators would be autho-

rised to make decisions in

their areas, especially con-

cerning infrastructure and

The plan also calls for

more privatisation in agricul-

ture and industry, and for

more credit to agricultural

cooperatives. A new cotton

exchange will be established

io the Mediterranean city of

Ms. Ciller also said the plan came in time for Tur-

key's entrance into the Euro-

pean customs union. Turkey

is hoping to enter the customs

union next year, and the

Meanwhile the Turkish

government was debating

decide in December.

Izmir, she said.

tration," she said.

package as "removing impediments to the capital mar-

He noted that it was consistent with the April 25 Group of Seven communique, in which Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States called for an orderly reversal

a late Wednesday statement that Japan will continue coordinating policies with other major nations in the currency

Reuters Thursday that the previous day's concerted intervention by Japan and the United States demonstrated the consensus on orderly reversal is still intact. Tokyo dealers agreed.

"The spirit of coordinated action is, I think, sincere, otherwise the dollar would have risen so much," said Takako Masai, a dealer at Toronto Dominion Bank.

the impact of the Japanese package would defend on how much investment actually resulted.

'A lot of investment could eventually even lead to a reduction in Japan's trade

help the dollar firm. But the question is how much are people actually willing to invest?" said Kazuya Imai, a manager at Hokkaido Takushoku Bank.

A key test of Japanese investors appetite for foreign

assets comes next week. when \$42.5 billion worth of U.S. treasury bonds will be auctioned in a quarterly refunding.

Meanwhile, the dollar climbed to 91 yen and in quiet Friday trading.

The dollar moved half a yen higher in early European business on overnight

micals have seen a 40 per cent

reduction in their import

Turkey is expected to abol-ish the remaining 60 per cent

by the end of the year when

the European Parliament is

to decide on Turkey's bid to

Unscramble these four Jumbles,

one letter to each square, to form

four ordinary words.

RIFEA

CANET

RUBECH

SOOMER

join the customs union.

duties this year.

Germans discuss restructuring Iraq's debt

German delegation has discussed plans to restructure Irag's debts to clear the way for trade projects after the lifting of U.N. sanctions, the head of the team said here Friday.

"We both agreed that the debts should be restructured otherwise they would hinder any project in the future. The Iraqi side is interested in restructuring these debts," said Peter Jungen at the end of a five-day visit.

He said the four-member delegation from the German Near and Middle East Association (NUMOV) would inform Bonn of Iraq's viewpoint on its debt to Germany, estimated at between \$2 and \$3 billion dollars.

The Iraqi side has also informed us about a lot of infrastructure projects they

> DO THIS ALL THE TIME.

Now arrange the circled letters to

form the surprise answer, as sug-gested by the above cartoon.

end of sanctions, such as railways," Mr. Jungen told AFP.

We have reached the conclusion that German companies can implement humanitarian projects in Iraq now," he said. "However, we have to ask for the permission of the U.N. sanctions

The German fact-finding mission followed similar trade delegation visits from Britain, France, Italy and The German foreign minis-

try and federal economic ministry were informed of the trip, said Mr. Jungen, who is member of the board of directors of the Hamburgbased NUMOV.

Before sanctions were imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990, Germany's trade with Iraq stood at around \$2 billion a year, including exports of cars, construction equipment and other machinery.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Miles Arginic

FORECAST FOR SATUR-DAY, AUGUST 5, 1995 By Thomas S. Pierson,

HOROSCOPE

Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Be careful not to get into

any disagreements with others or you could get into serious trouble. Be wise. TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Use tact, not force with others if you want them to join you in some activity whether of a creative or en-

tertaining nature. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You have so many duties you bardly know where to begin, but plan to do them intelligently and they are soon behind you.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Some friend may try to force you to see things his or her way today, but you do not approve, so.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Get busy at personal affairs that need completing and avoid outside matters which

could get you into trouble. VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Don't run away from duties ahead of you but patiently handle them efficiently and avoid trouble which could occur.

LIBRA: (September 23 to Ec October 22) Use tact so that you do not have a battle with your mate today, since this could become very serious. SCORPIO: (October 23 to. November 21) Make sure you postpone that talk with a partner today who is as stubborn as you are over some issue which is important.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) It may be a bit hard to handle all the duties ahead of you today, but if you get an early start, they are soon behind you.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Forget some entertainment which may be altogether too expensive for you. Await a better time to

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Avoid any disagreements at home or these could reach royal battle proportions which could end sadly for you.

March 20) You may find delays in taking little trips for either personal or business reasons today, but take this in your stride.

Birthstone of August: Peri-

"(The governments) must of the dollar's decline. steps removing barriers to have cooperated behind the public and private Japanese Finance Minister scenes. If the U.S. hadn't institutions' overseas invest-Masayoshi Takemura said in done anything after the But dealers warned that ment and loans.

said Mr. Yamanaka.

Separately, a senior ministry of finance official told

Turkish premier: New 5-year plan to double growth rate Friday a draft bill aimed at lowering and stablising the price of bread after its decision earlier this week to scrap

> The draft bill calls for reducing the value added tax (VAT) on wheal flour from eight to one per cent.

a \$20 per ton import duty on

The two measures are aimed at battling rising prices of bread set by private bakers and grocery stores. Prices have also fluctuated increasingly the past months as traders await government de-

A loaf of bread sells for around 13 cents at municipal bakeries and 20 cents outside, almost double the prices a year ago. Fancy bakeries

sell bread for up to \$1 a loaf. This is a gesture, a step in the right direction," said an official at the European Union's ofice here, commenting on the tax abolition.

Wheat is not one of the imports affected by the European Union demands. Other items soch as leath-

er, plastic, cement and che-





this sign on our front lawn?"

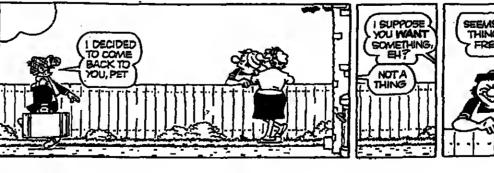


GUESS'WHAT. I WON!









Mutt'n Jeff







THE Daily Crossword by Robert Zimmerman

ACROSS 1 Rattler's threat 5 Precious violin 14 Woodwind 15 Elizabethan 16 Encore! 18 Repugnani 19 Lima or pinto

20 Picked 22 Put down 24 Regrets 25 Haad of cast 26 Flower extracts 29 At the mike 33 Fastens down 34 Hushed 35 Stadium echo 36 — and zags

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59 Eliminale 60 Capital gain 61 Comedian Bert 82 Guide a vessel 63 Suilable niche

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obscured 2 Talenled 3 December sono 4 Pentagon VIPs 5 Lessens 6 Stags 7 Kind of rock

34 French nyer 37 Does a certain dance 38 Zealots 8 Ballerina's pivot 40 Drink loo much

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31 Nostrils

SAGA LADS AROSE ELONGATE EMEUTE

Puzzle solved:

43 Veep's lady 44 Rope to laad an animal 46 Baseball's

49 Route 50 Pierre's dad 52 Too Schott 47 Clay deposit

51 Object of worship

53 Riga native

Peanuts

AT THE PLAYGROUND WERE DISCUSSING CRABBY SISTERS





Jumbles: TIGER FAUNA INTACT ANSWER

What the Jogger stopped for --"RUNNING" WATER

SEEMS LIKE THE WORST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE, TOO, RUBE

amuse yourself.

PISCES: (February 20 to

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Suleiman as Saying aimed to import 25.00

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Iraq's del

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The German fan

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Kuwait in August 10)

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-FORECAST FOR:

By Thomas S

Astrologer Callot : Foundation

ARIES: (March Il #

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PISCES: (F-hrust)

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May 1996

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Business & Finance

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A review of economic news from the Arabic press

Building new petroleum refinery to begin next year

☆☆ WORK WILL begin on

building a new petroleum refinery in Agaba in early 1996 at a cost of \$2,000 million. the minister of energy and mineral resources has announced. Setting up the new refinery, to export petroleum products 10 outside markets, will be carried out over nearly four years and will provide more than 10,000 employment opportunities in various vocations and specialties, the minister said, adding that the ministry has received offers from six international companies to set up and finance the project. According to the minister, the companies are currently studying the economic feasibility of the scheme and the marketing of the refinery products in

outside outlets (Al Ra'i). **☆☆ THE JORDAN Insur**ance Company (JIC) earned JD 10.96 million in premiums during the financial year en-ding March 31, 1995, com-pared to JD 10.53 million during the previous year. However, net profit for 1994/ 1995 amounted to JD 1.78 million compared to JD 1.43 million in 1993/1994. As such, the company's general assembly approved distribut-ing JD 500,000, or 10 per cent, in dividends to the shareholders. According to the 1994/1995 annual report, the general loss to the "technical sections" amounted to 108.21 per cent (64.55 in 1993/1994) as a result of a 258.84 per cent loss at the fire department. The vehicle department registered a JD 281,000 profit (JD 91,300 profit in 1993/1994) because the company stopped accepting the compulsory third parinsuranee from Feb. 14,1994, until Feb. 28, 1995. The company has resumed accepting the compulsary any disagreemene third party insurance since

March 1, 1995, J1C earned JD 1,75 million from the

marine department, JD 2.65

million from the fire depart-

ment, JD 5.11 million from

join you in some 2 the vehicle department, JD whether of a creams: 1.11 million from the general accidents section and JD tertaining nature. 351,336 from the life insur-GEMINI: (May 21 % ance section. J1C had a total 21) You have so man. investment of JD 3.43 million you hardly knew wif at cost price at the Amman begin, but plan to to. Financial Market at the end intelligently and me of March 1995. At market soon behind you value, the investment amount MOON CHILDREN to JD 4.11 million. The company earned JD 54,238 from 22 to July 211 Some: trading at the stock market in may to force year things his or her way? 1994/1995. The company bas ID 4.73 million in real estate but you do not appear investment while its total assets stood at JD 19.37 mil-LEO: (July 22 to Aug lion as of March 31, 1995 (Al Get busy at personal Ra'i + Al Dustour) that need complete

☆☆ THE CENTRAL Bank VIRGO: (August has supplied border posts with equipment to detect away from dunes abo counterfeit money. The move you but patiently & is in line with efforts exerthem efficiently and cised by the bank to abort trouble which could et any attempt to bring any counterfeiht money to the local market (Al Aswaq).

you do not have shell **☆☆ THE DEPARTMENT** your male lodal. 55 of Customs decided to open a permanent office at all exhibitions which are held in the Kingdom to enable the November 211 Makes participants to got first-hand postpone that talk s information about customs imposed on their products. The office would also help issue which is imput answer all exhibitors' quer-SAGITTARIIS ries. Participants in many exhibitions held recently faced a bit hard to handk difficulties because of not knowing customs levies and but if you get an earl they are soon behow could not sell their products directly to the public (Al Aswaq)

CAPRICORN Dear to January 201 Fores AA THE VALUE of tenders for government projects duraltogether too expension. Await 3 hellers ing the first six months of this year amounted to JD 145 million spread over 139 ten-AQUARIUS: (Januar) February (v) Avoid's ders, of which 97 tenders were awarded for a JD 73 agreements at homest could reach royal has million total. During the first six months fo 1995, the Govortions which could be ernment tenders department licensed 345 contractors for one year and classified 752 contractors into various clas-March 20) You may have lays in taking little you ses and specialities. The department also qualified 85 either personal of her reasons roday, but is consultants in all areas (Al Dustour).

Siemens to make huge investment in U.K.

LONDON (AFP) - A pro- Hunter. ject by German group Siemens to build a huge new microchip plant in the north of England is one of the largest foreign investments ever made in Britain.

Siemens confirmed officially Friday that it would build the new factory, and said it would invest two billion marks in the project, or \$1.45 billion.

The plant, to be constructed in two stages, will be located at Newcastle in northern England, and will employ, 1,500 workers.

The new factory will make microchips with a capacity of 16 M-DRAM and 64 M-DRAM, destined for use in mobile telephones, telecommunications and the media.

The Siemens plan is the largest single high-rich investment every made in Britain" and confirms that Britain is "Europe's competitive base," British Deputy Prime Minister Michael Heseltine said.

The British government has taken a key role in promoting the project, which should help to reinvigorate the nonhern region of Tyne-side, around Newcastle, which has seen the virtual disppearance of the shipyards that formed the backbone of its industry.

Unemployment in the area is currently 17 per cent. They Tyneside region, where the factory will be

built, has been especially hit

this year by the clsoure of the

last of those shipyards. Swan

trade and industry until early July, took personal charge of the negotiations with tHe chairman of Siemens, Heinrich von Pierer. And according to certain press reports. Prime Minister John Major himself took pan in some of the secret discussions.

Mr. Heseltine, minister for

In October last year, the U.K. government announced construction of a factory producing microwave ovens and computer screens to the south of Newcastle, in Cleveland.

The official figures announced by Siemens were, however, slightly below those reported by the regional authorities and by the media. The British press had estimated the investment at one billion pounds said it would create 2,000 jobs.

The German group said that it could expand the fac-tory if the microchip market continued, to grow in the years to come.

"We have been waiting for a long time for some good news on the jobs front," said Siephen Byers, a Labour MP from the region, before the announcement was made. This is good news for the

north east and reflects cooperation between government, local authorities and the development agency," said Labour trade and industry spokesman Brian Wilson.

This decision by Siemens. which aims to double its sales of micochips, has not brought joy everywhere in Britain.

Jordan Times Financial in co-operation with Markets Cairo Amman Bank

	HewYork	Tokyo
(,nelenc)	CEOSE.	CCOAC 1741 3/2/95
Sterling Pound"	1,6015	1,6021 **
Deukebe Mark	1,3973	1,3936
Sules Franc	1.1575	1,1544 **
French Franc	4,\$150	4,\$060
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European Curreny Unit .	1,5320	1,3360 **
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** European Opening IP RIDD RING GART

hurucurrancy Interest Ro	****		Pate: 3/6	/95
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTIIS	6 MTHS	12 MTH
U.S. Dollar	5,62	5,62	5.62	5,68
Sterling Found	5,56	5,62	6,75	6,93
Deutsche Mack	4,51	4,31	4,31	4,57
Swiss Franc	2.43	2,50	2,68	2,81
French Franc	6,00	5.85	5,78	5,79
Japanese Yen	0,62	0,56	0,50	0,50
European Currency Unit	5,61	5,81	S,Si	5,87

racious !	Metals			Date: 3/	8/95
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Gold	322.85	1.50	Stiver	5.12	0.120

	. 0	Date: 3/8/95		
Currency	tild	Offer		
U.S. Dollar	0,700	0,702		
Sicrilag Paund	1,1203	1,1259		
Deviache Mark	0,5018	0,5043		
Swiss Franc	0,6061	0.6091		
French Franc	0,1458	0,1465		
Japanese Yen"	0.7705	0,7744		
Duich Linlider	0,4480	0,4502		
Swedish Kruna				
Italian Lica	8,0442	0,0444		
Beigian Franc				

Currency	Clied	Offer Offer
Bahraini Diner	7.1410	1.2530
chancse Lirat	0.0425	0.04355
gudi Niyal	0,1863	0,1877
(uwalii Diner	1.1950	2,3550
einri Riyel	0,1971	0,1925
gyptian Pound	0.1900	0.2160
Mani Kiyai	1,2090	1,8280
AE Dirham	0.1900	0,1909
ireek Orachma ^a	0,7215	0,32250
ypelat Pound	1,5400	1,5950

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the

	on toreign exenange and
1.3558/68	Canadian dollar
	Deutschemarks
1.5644/54	Dutch guilders
1.1536/46	Swiss francs
28,70/74	Belgian francs
4.8098/48	French francs
1578.6/9.6	ltalian lire
91.06/15	Japanese yen
	Swedish crowns
6.1650/00	Norwegian crowns
5.4135/85	Danish crowns
	1.3558/68 1.3962/72 1.5644/54 1.1536/46 28.70/74 4.8098/48 1578.6/9.6 91.06/15 7.0775/75 6.1650/00

1.6022/32

One ounce of gold \$384.30/384.60

One Sterling

U.S. dollars

Japanese influence unchallenged in Asia

SINGAPORE (R) - Fifty years after Japan's army was expelled from Southeast Asia at the end of World War 11, the country's economic sway over the region is greater than ever,

Japan provides more investment, more exports and more tourists than any other country and economists say its influence will continue to increase with little serious challenge from other Asian rivals as long as the yen stays strong.

The sheer size of its available capital and its dominance in high-technology industries put it in a different league from the smaller "tiger" economies of Taiwan and South Korea.

"Japan is, and will continue to be, the prime exporter of capital to the region," said Christopher Hunt, head of research at BBC Warburg in Singapore. "It's a symbotic

· lower costs while Southeast Asia needs capital." Benefiting from its position

at the crossroads of Southeast Asia, Singapore was the first to leap to developed status and now has the richest per capita economy in Southeast

Bu 1992, the last year of available data, Japanese companies were the top investors, with 13.2 billion Singaporean dollars (\$9.43 billion) spent out of an accumulated total foreign investment of 56.7 billion Sing-aporean dollars (\$40.5 billion).

Kevin Chew, at Barings Research in Kuala Lumpur, said Japanese firms were moving to high-technology industries, leaving an opening for other Asian "tiger"

"In the late 1980s iberc was a rise in Japanese investment in Malaysia due to the relationship: Japan needs sharp increase in the value of

Japanese bank loan losses as high as \$170b

TOKYO (AFP) — A senior finance ministry official Thursday estimated ultimate losses on Japanese bank loans at up to \$170 billion. about a third of the nonperforming loans of all financial institutions.

"Although the amount of non-performing loans appears to be large, the actual amount which needs treatment is comparatively small," said Yoshimasa Nishirmura, director general of the ministry's finance bureau.

But he said continued falls in real estate values were likely to delay the disposal of non-performing assets in the banking sector.
"I would say sustained de-

elines in property prices is a major problem as it may undo the variety of efforts taken by management of financial institutions," he told a luncheon.

Mr. Nishimura estimated the ultimate loan losses suf-

fered by banks at between 10 trillion yen and 15 trillion yen (\$110 billion and \$170 billion). The ministry has esti-mated the entire financial sector's non-performing loans at 40 trillion yen, but recently said it could be closer to 50 trillion yen.

The banking bureau chief said the government should tackle the liquidation of property collateral with such actions as tax and budget measures. Mr. Nishimura also said

the ministry might commit public funds to bail out credit associations and second-tier regional banks, which have a weaker management base compared with larger banks.

"I am by no means optimistie about the current financial situation and we may have to consider the public involvement to rescue smaller financial institu-tions," he said. But public funds committed "would not be that much.

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3- Junior secretary with very good ability in word processing and English. Conditions are excellent with long term view of

.tnemvolame Please send your C.V. to P.O.Box 753257 Amman. the yen, but in the past two or three years this has been overshadowed by capital from other countries like

industries like in iron and steel and textiles. It is certainly no threat to Japan. Japanese levels of sophistication in terms of technology

Taiwan and Korea," Mr. Chew said. "This new investment

(from Taiwan) is in basic

Paul Schymyck at H.G. Asia agreed: "We are seeing less developed countries in- off until 1976 that held back vesting in countries with an the country, while Japan proeven cheaper cost base than ceeded with its economic themselves. Japanese influence is not declining.

Many Chinese express regret Japan and not China is the economic giant of Asia. They believe that China of 1995 worth \$19.85 billion.

are much higher," Mr. Chew could be the economic equal of Japan but for ferocious political campaigns starting from 1957 and lasting on and

> Japan has become China's biggest trading partner, with trade in the first five months

AMMAN BINTANCE HOUSING MANK CENTER TELEPRONE: 007171 ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST COMPANY'S NAME	7 607179 FOR WEGSNS	DAY 02/08	/1995 ⁾	
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JORDAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINES	450	1207	2.890	2.860
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THE ARAB POTASH	3500	1528	5.050 S.050	5.010
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THE PUBLIC MINISC	750	2303	3,100	3.070
DAR AL DAWA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	762	6038	7.950	7.930
ARAB INVESTMENT & INCREMATIONAL TRADE	1250	938	.750	750
LIVESTOCK 6 POULTRY	12150	586£	-470	.480
ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING	7750	11151	1.420	2.430
MATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRY MATIONAL INDUSTRIES	552	597	2.080	1.080
THTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	600	1353~	2.250	2.260
JORDAN CHEMICAL INDOSTRIES JORDAN INDUSTRIES & MATCH/JINCO	2 500	1530	.610	.620
NATIONAL CAULE & WIRE MANUPACTURING	1386	6681	4.900	4.900
JORDAN SULPHO-CHEMICALS ARAB CENTER FOR PHARM. & CHEMICALS	750 500	1215	1.620 2.200	1.620 2.220
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, JORDAN NEW CARLE COMPANY	3500 3670	6090	1.740	1.740
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Players proud to have represented Jordan, eye advanced standing in 1997

By Aleen Bannavan

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Jordan Times Staff Reporter AMMAN — Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Al Hassan Thursday met with members of Jordan's women's national basketball team who recently returned home after taking part in the 16th Asian Basketball Championship for women held in the Japanese city of Shizuoka between July 24 and 30.

Players and officials of the team expressed their heartfelt appreciation and thanks to Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath as they were the ones who made their trip come through at the last moment by donating JD 5.000 to cover travel expenses when the team's fund-raising effort fell short of its target.

Princess Sarvath inquired the players about their impressions at the Asian championship and stressed the need for participation in such international events.

"Only by such participation can we upgrade our standard as we benefit from more experienced teams. Set your sights on the upcoming championship and I am sure you will do much better each time," the Princess told the players.

Jordan Basketball Fed-

eration (JBF) Chairman Awwad Haddad said participation in all upcoming Asian tournaments was a must for all age-groups and teams and said all efforts would be exerted to this

Asked about the team's preparations and any problems they faced during training, the coach and players said the availability of practice courts was the major problem.

"During the five months when the team was regrouped we only had four practices on official courts the Baccalaureate and the Sports Palace)," coach Fadi Sabbah explained. ...

The players added that there was a wide difference between the JBF court and the indoor courts at schools where they practised and the courts they played on at the Asian championship.

Princess Sarvath said the Baccalaureate School court. - which is the closest to international specifications
— could be utilised for the team's practice from now

Taking part in the competition for the first time. the Kingdom's team finished fifth in Level B which also included teams from Hong Kong, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. Level A included China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan Kazakhstan and Kyrgizstan. China won the Level A title, while Thailand won the Level B

Taking into consideration that the Kingdom's players were oarticipating in their first ever tournament since being regrouped after a 12year absence, the team ended their participation on a high note after coming from



Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Al Hassan meets with the JBF president and mem-

The Kingdom's team celebrates after defeating Indonesia 58-55 to finish fifth in Level. B

team had to came up with nearly half of the JD 12,000

travel cost by collecting

donations from understand-

ing individuals and institu-

Furthermore, since travel

arrangements came through

on the last day, the team

had to stay in Kuala Lum-

pur. Malaysia for two days

and thus missed the open-

ing ceremony and reached Sbizuoka only nine hours

They lost their first match

79-41 to the Philippines as

the team lost the efforts of

one of the team's usual top

scorer Suhair Maqusi who

was injured during warm-

up. On the second day, jet

lag and exhaustion were still persistent as Jordan lost

82-38 to Malaysia and the

team had another setback

when midway through the first half, another of the

team's key players. Jehane Abdelnour, sprained her

ankle and the injury ham-

pered her usual scoring and

manoeuvrability through-

In the match attended by

Jordanian embassy officials

who came from Tokyo, the

out the competition.

before their first match.



Jordan's top scorer Jumana Salti goes for the basket. Salti was chosen among the top S players in Level B

Mauge agreed: "We faced teams we did not know anything about. They were pre-pared for everything. They mastered their homework.

Jehane Abdelnour added We could have done better. Still it was a great experience. Hind Al Gbouri, who

was among the top three rebounders of the team, said: "This was just a stepping stone for us. It was a great chance to participate in such a championship, and I think we can do very well in the future."

Andeira Kasisieb and Rania Dajani stressed the importance of Jordan's taking part in such a competition. "We undoubtedly benefited a lot. We were the centre of attraction being the only Arab team and the one travelling from the farthest distance. It was an unbelievable feeling."
Teammate Hala

Muheisen summed up the

team's morale upon participating in this Asian gather-ing. "Seeing the Jordanian flag among all those of the Asian nations was great, I felt proud to be there and represent my country. I am more determined now to practise harder and hopefully score a very good re-sult in the 1997 cham-

pionsbip."
Head of Jordan's delegation to Japan Muna Janho said the important thing was "to continue what we started and take part in all upcoming championships. Coach Fadi Sabbah also agreed adding "it was important that we started somewhere. We know where we stand in Asian basketball, and we hope all those who did not think we could actually regroup the team and take part will now believe that the JBF and its women's basketball committee is serious and determined to have a team.



Jordan's team captain Rana Husseini is dwarfed by 204 centimetre tall Chinese giant Zheng Haixia who was chosen the tournament's Most Valuable Player

Sanchez Vicario falls to Witmeyer

CARLSBAD (Agencies) -Top seed Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, slowed by a hamstring injury, fell to hardhitting American Marianne Werdel Witmeyer 6-3, 2-6. 6-2 Thursday to reach the quarterfinals of the \$430,000 Toshiba Tennis Classic.

"I did exactly what I wanted to do," said the 11th-seeded Werdel Witmeyer. who also banged out a win over Sanchez in their meeting last March at the Lipton Championships.

"I wanted to be aggressive. try to keep my errors down as much as I could, and force ber to be more aggressive." After winning the opening

game of the second set. San-chez called for WTA trainer Cathy Ortega on the changeover and was treated for a pulled right hamstring. which was wrapped in a ban-dage before she returned to

"It was painful, especially when I went to my fore-hand," said Sanchez. "I can feel it getting worse and I tried not to think about. But there's nothing you can do. If you don't get fast to the ball against a player who hits so hard, you know you have to run to the next shot. It's

impossible." Others gaining quarterfinal berths included ninth seed Lisa Raymond, who beat fellow-American Lindsay Lee 6-4, 6-2; Australian Rachel McQuillan, a 6-4, 7-6 (7-5) winner over American Sandra Cacic, and 16thseeded Gigi Fernadez, who beat Christina Singer of Germany 6-3, 6-1.

Werdel Witmeyer set the pace from the start, displaying punishing groundstrokes which kept world number two Sanchez scurrying around the hard court of La Costa Hotel and Spa for much of the one-hour 46-

minute match. "I knew if I could force her to be more aggressive than what she's comfortable with she might make some errors, and she did. You always bave the advantage if you can make the other player change

their game."
The American used two early breaks to jump to a 5-1 lead on the way to claiming the first set.

Despite the injury, the Spaniard fought back and levelled the match by winoing the final four games of the second set, helped by a rash of mistakes from Werdel Wit-

When the second set was over, I was almost glad that I got to start fresh in the third set," said Werdel Witmeyer. Werdel Witmeyer again began finding the mark with her explosive groundstrokes

for a 5-I advantage in the

decisive set before serving

out the victory. Sanchez, 23, would not blame the defeat on her in-

"It was bothering me a little but I think she played very good," said Sanchez. Werdel Witmeyer said Sanchez could never be counted out.

"She was limping one point and then running down balls the bionic woman would only get the next point." the win-

KODAK UNVEILS NEW GENERATION OF GOLD FILM IN JORDAN

at a dealers conference held in Amman, Kodak (Near East) Inc. and Kodak Distributor Allied Trade and Supply Co. announced the launch of the new generation of Kodak Gold films in Jordan. Built on the same new colour technology used in the 'European Colour Print Film of the year 1994-1995' award winning Gold 400 film, the new range offers reduced processing sensitivity with similar printing characteristics.

This means consistent film performance et the photo Inisher/minilab and outstanding results: The new generation enables photo finishers to deliver excellent quality from the entire Gold range. In short, better pictures for every kind of photography," said Mr. V. Zeiteunzian, of Kodak (Near East) Inc. who is currently visiting Amman to launch the new films.

The new family is e quantum leap in colour negative technology featuring Triple Coated Magenta which allows precise control of Imeging. The first layer achieves grain control, the mid layer improves colour reproduction and the slow layer provides a wide process

"We are committed to marketing and supporting Kodak brand in the Kingdom. The Gold film launch is one of a series of activities designed to gain a substantial share for Kodak picture taking/picture making activities," commented Mr. Shaheen, Allied Trade and Supply General Manager.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

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Real Madrid reel under financial crisis

MADRID (R) — Mounting debts, a boardroom rebellion and the threat of drastic sanctions from the Spanish League have flung mighty Real Madrid into the worst financial crisis of their 93year history.

The biggest name in European club football has debts estimated at between \$10.4 and \$16 million, dating from the 1993 rebuilding of the Santiago Bernabeau Sta-

The club's board met last week to agree a rescue plan. but three hours of beated

debate ended in failure. Seven top financial directors stormed out, frustrated at the club's apparent reluctance to put its financial house in

28-20 down in the first half

to upset Indonesia 58-55 on

the final day. A surprise

announcement awaited the

Kingdom's players and offi-

cials at the closing cere-

mony when the team's top

scorer, Jumana Salti, was

chosen among the top five Asian players in Level B.

Salti was Jordan's top scor-

er and rebounder in Jor-

dan's team averaging 16.8

points and 12 rebounds per

told the Jordan Times. "Although I was happy and

proud of my achievement I

know I still have a long way to go and that I could do

"Our team can do much

better next time. I believe

we can undoubtedly be among the top three," she

Players and team officials

all conclude that had it not

been for the circumstances

surrounding the team's pre-

parations and travel

arrangements, results could

Besides the fact that the'

have been quite different.

team'only had four practice

maiches against Syrian

champions Al Jala', the

better.

"I was stunned," Salri

Four days later the depleted board presented Real's 1994/95 accounts to the Spanish Football League (LFP) amid feverish media speculation that the club could no longer honour its

Spanish sports newspapers suggested the league might hand the champions an unthinkable punishment — te-

legation to the third division. That fear evaporated on Tuesday when a meeting of the LFP finance committee relegated Sevilla and Celta but Spared Real.

Real's embattled board, on the initiative of vicepresident Lorenzo Sanz, had stumped up the cash to cover five per cent of next season's budget, as the LFP requires. Disaster was averted.

Nevertheless, the crisis, which Real Madrid president Ramon Mendoza describes as the worst he has ever faced, has posed searching questions about the way the club is run.

. Kingdom's team came quite

close to beating Level B

runners up Hong Kong, winning the second half 29-

27 but losing the match

65-45 on the score differ-

ence Hong Kong had in the

ably the only consistent

team in Level B as they

improved from one match

to another. In their fourth

game they gave eventual winners Thailand a hard

time before experience made the difference and

The only Arab team in

the 12-nation competition.

Jordan's team was warmly

welcomed by Asian basket-

ball officials who stressed

the need for Jordan's con-

"This was our first time

in such a competition. Next

time we know exactly what

to expect, "explained Suhair Maqusi, "Because of

my injury. I had a chance to

watch the matches closely.

The other teams are very

well prepared and I think

we benefited a lot. I cannot

Teammate Tala Al

wait to go back to practise."

finued participation.

Jordan lost 71-42.

first half.

With cruel irony, the club's fortunes have hit rock bottom just when their team is scaling new heights.

Real swept the Spanish League last season after four years playing second fiddle to Barcelona, and now they want the European Cup. the trophy they made their own in the 1950s when they won it five times in a row.

But that was then and this is now, say the seven rebel directors who resigned last Thursday. Real Madrid has

to move with the times and compete in the hard-headed financial world of the 1990s.

The rebel directors, led by vice-president Juan Miguel Villar Mir, said they would guarantee Real Madrid's debt, but only if the club approved a stringent restructuning plan.

They said Real, winners of the Spanish League a record 26 times, must sell their recently built commercial centre and sack some manage-

Madrid built the shopping centre, "The Bernabeu Corner," in 1993 when they renovated the daunting stadium and increased capacity to 107,000 from 90,000.

But rebuilding ran substantially over budget and the club suffered a \$1.2 million deficit on the year. Villar Mir and his supporters say a wholesale shake-up is now imperative.

"This is a project which, in my humble opinion, Real Madrid urgently needs," he said after Thursday's stormy meeting. "I want the club to pull itself out of economic mire but that will need huge financial restructing."

The Book "The Moon Watch " Last June, the American space shuttle Atlantis had a

rendezvous with the Russian space station MIR 20 years after the historic Apollo-Soyuz link-up. Also in June, the American world premiere of the film.

"Apollo 13" took place. Starring Tom Hanks, recounting the epic journey of that fateful mission in 1970. These two significant 1995 space events have a common denominator: the Omega Speedmaster Professional chronograph wristwatch, flight-qualified by NASA in 1965 for all manned space missions.

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qualifying inches

under weiter about a finthe stretch Maryiano. fastest time to the which broke his street, "I feel a the Tent" Stewart said 1 425 . The

Joyce torped

Les Angeles (Li) tory over Infinit: Cras

Conner

Stick -- F. Start Maria Mix mire in the second Tiener is the tree are back in - - me. John St. 1995 County the contract of the con

Come Line Yankee newcomers spark-

victory.

leyer

t she's comfortable might make some env she did. You always b advantage if you the the other player the he American used y oreaks to jump loa: on the way to claim

first set. espite the injury lled the match by wing final four games of and set, helped by a sustakes from Werdel

When the second ser r. I was almost glade to start fresh in the th said Werdel Witmer Jerdel Witmeyer & an finding the marks explosive groundsing a 5-1 advantage in sive set before sen the victors anchez. 23. would ne the defeat on her,

it was bothering me but I think she play good. said Sanche ferdel Wirmeyer g. chez could neier; ated out. She was Imping one po

then running down h bionic woman woulde the next point." they

GENERATION DAN

ı **Am**ıman Kodak ille utor Allied Trade at th of the new general Built on the same is European Colour Pa rd winning Geld 400% i processing sensing

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y and supporting hore ! film launch is men! rain a substantial stat ire making activité ed Trade and EDM

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oon Watch · shullis Alianiis hill space sains WAS OVUZ IICK-UT rld premiere of the B Tom Harks, 19: Julie SSIO7 17 1277

space evenis have Omega Speedmast vator fight qualmet? ice missions ary of Nell Aimston! i's greates: adventue. I these events over n. how and who the a Moon has concern loated in all its spanissichs since 195

lelcome

start at S:30 P.M. rvation please (8 25155 Amman

uprising.
"It was excining," said Sierd and residential Omega Steedmast on the line.

Cone (11-6) picked up his

malisation

Evans loses, this time with a smile

PASADENA (AP) — This time, Janet Evans climbed out of the pool with a smile.

She was beaten by Brooke Bennett for the second time in four days, but pushed her 15-year-old rival to the limit before getting nipped in the 400-metre freestyle Thursday night in the Phillips 66 National Cham-

Mel Stewart and Crissy Ahmann-Leighton, 1992 Olympians who dominated the 100 butterfly for years, lost their races.

Evans made her move coming off the final turn before Bennett spurted ahead in the final 5 metres to win in 4 minutes, 10.72 seconds. Evans, the world record-holder, swam 4:10.75.

Trina Jackson of Jacksonville, Florida, led the first 200 metres, with Bennett second and .Evans third.

"I really didn't see I was behind. I didn't freak out," Evans said. "I'm so used to controlling a race, if I'm not out in front, I get With two laps to go, Bennett took over first, Evans was second and Jackson slipped to

third. Evans, 23, qualified fifth and Bennett third among eight swimmers in morning preliminar-

"At least I know I bad a good race in me," Evans said.

Evans was in tears Monday night after losing the 800 free for the first time since

Stewart ended up outside in lane eight after qualifying last in morning preliminaries. He and Bill Weaver swam the first 35 metres under water about a foot from the bottom of the pool before surfacing approaching the

Stewart led coming off the turn but faded in the stretch. Henderson of Fort Washington. Maryland, won in 53.59 seconds, the third fastest time in the world this year. Stewart was third in 54.10.

'Stewart lost the 200 fly Tuesday night, which broke his streak of 12 straight national titles in the event.

"I feel a little better after tonight's swim," Stewart said. "I was feeling sorry for myself and I decided to go out and fight." Sahir Mohammad of Atlanta finished

ing one.
"I'd say my level of play

was not my highest," Courier

said. "I can't point to any

specifics. It was just a close

In the quarter-finals Joyce

will face fifth-seeded Swede

Thomas Engvist, who beat

Italian Cristiano Caratti 6-2.

Enqvist has won three

tournaments this year and he

claimed two impressive scalps

said Enqvist, who had

surgery on both of his knees

last year. "You know you're

on the right way when you

play a close match against top

players." Top seed Goran Ivanisevic

on the other hand, did not seem at all confident of his

He reached the quarters,

despite the onset of the

strange malaise that grips him

when he plays in the United

States, with a 6-4, 6-2 victory

over error-prone Jim Grahh.

The Croatian, whose 11

career victories do not in-

clude a single U.S. tourna-

- Andre Agassi and Pete

match.

7-6 (7/2).

17, owner of four Grand Sampras — en route to vic-Slam titles, 7-6 (7/4), 7-551 — tory in Philadelphia.

Joyce got the only service — "I have some good wins,"

LOS ANGELES (AFP) -

Los Angeles native Michael

Joyce added another match

to his growing list here Thurs-

day with a second-round vic-

tory over third-seeded Jim

Courier in the ATP Tour

Infiniti Open.

Joyce, 22, has climbed to 87th in the world this year

and reached the fourth round

of Wimhledon after hattling

through shoulder injuries and

He upset the world number!

Joyce got the only service

hreak of the match in the

final game as Courier sailed a

forehand long. He had failed to convert his first match

point in the 10th game, but

the 22-year-old was delighted

Courier on a level with wins

earlier this year over Michael

Stich — his first top-10 victim

first round at Wimhledon.

and Marc Rosset in the

"I've won a few hig match-

es this year and players go

hack and make some ex-

cuse," Joyce said. "I know he

come up with an excuse, hut

Courier seemed to want to

played well.

victory

Joyce rated his victory over

with his performance.

second in 54.07 to become the first black swimmer on the U.S. team for the Pan Pacific championships, which begin Thursday in

Ahmann-Leighton, making a comehack after winning an Olympic silver medal in '92 in the 100 fly, failed to qualify for the Pan Pacific. She finished fourth in 1:00.57.

The preliminary field posted the fastest times outside the '92 Olympic trials in the last five years, with five swimmers hitting the one-minute mark. Just eight American women have broken the minute harrier.

The speed suited Jenny Thompson, whose winning time of 1:00.19 tied the second-fastest time in the world this year. Richelle Depoled of Scotia, New York, was

second and '92 Olympian Angel Martino was Bennett became the first woman to win two

events this week. She swam between Jackson and Evans, tracking their progress as she breathed on each side. Evans is having her tonsils out next week. putting her in doubt for the Pan Pacific meet.

Her doctor has advised immediate surgery,

but Evans may choose to swim in the year's biggest meet. She needed a top-three finish in the 400 or the 1.500 free to make the U.S. team. Amanda Beard, 13, ot Irvine, California, won the 100 hreakstroke in 1:10.37. The men's winner was Kurt Grote of San Diego in

John Piersma of Huntsville, Alahama, swam the fastest time in the world this year in

winning the men's 400 free in 3:49.72. Lea Loveless of Crestwood, New York, a '92 Olympian and American record-holder making a comeback, won the 100 backstorke in 1:02.44, two-tenths of a second ahead of B.J. Bedford of Etna, New Hampshire.

World record-holder Jeff Rouse of Frederickshurg, Virginia, won the men's 100 back title in 55.29 seconds.

Henderson swam a leg of the winning men's 800 free relay. Jon Olsen, Henderson. Tom Dolan and Joe Hudepohl were first in 7:25.89. In the women's relay, Thompson anchored the winning team of Jane Skillman, Angie Wester-Krieg and Amy Oberhelman, who finished in 8:15.70.

ment, said he had a mental

block about hard courts, even

though his hig-serving game should be ideally suited to the

WITH CHAR SHARE

Q.1-As South, vulnerable, you

1078 VAQ873 JAQ1092 4K

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
4762 7K6 (A10972 \$163)
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West Pass I NT Pass Pass
Dbl Pass ?

Q.3.—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

hold:

AAJ52 CE92 CAKQ83 48
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 4 Dbl Pans 1 7

Q.4-Neither vulnerable, as South

Pess

What action do you take?

What action do you take?

Page ? What action do you take?

North East 1 2 Pass 3 V Pass

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

He's just an empty vessel making a lot of noise"). But the real slaps in the face have come on the track at the major championships,

good measure.

to get relaxed."

myself."

Canadian Bruny Surin

admits Christie's antics used to unsettle him. "When I

started, it used to get to me.

He stares and doesn't talk to

anybody, whilst others chat

But the double world in-

door sprint champion then

adds pertinently: "But it

doesn't bother me now --- I

do the same and focus on

Christie and his 23 interna-

Lewis and Burrell may be

past saving, locked into an

inferiority complex they can-not admit to, but Surin and

Donovan Bailey, Mike

Marsh, Dennis Mitchell and

Davidson Ezinwa and co

have got used to him.

They've even had the cheek

All of which leaves the

greatest sprinter Britain has

ever boasted with a problem

about being called old. He's

of being nice about him.

what to get angry about?

He can't get in a froth

to bear him this season.

tional title are suddenly not

And there's the ruh.

bothering his rivals.

He prohably hasn't decided what to be angry about yet. But there's still plenty of

thing.
The British team captain's

The Jamaican-born athlete - and, on a bad day, he resents that label because he feels it questions his Britishness - has always appeared prone to confrontation, both

On it, he is the master of psychology, from the warmup track to the blocks. His face snaps shut into a

Even his walk to the track is

World record holder Leroy Joyce torpedoes Courier to lift local spirits

> American insults ("Linford who?") have been answered in kind ("I've kicked Lewis's but left, right and centre.

AKOJE CAJOT VARE 47

The Briding has processed. South West North East 2 + Page 2 NT 3 +

Q.5-As South, vulnerable, you hold

4J1065 78 -QJ74 4K1082

The bidding has proceeded: North East South, West 1 7 Obl 7

Q.6-Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

+K432 CK OAKJ109 4K106

The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 Pass 2 Pass

What do you bid now?

What action do you take?

What action do you take?

World Athletics Championships

Why Christie's bruising for a fight

GOTHENBURG, Sweden. (AFP) - Linford Christie will be boiling with rage when he launches the defence of his world sprint title here on Saturday.

time for him to find some-

rantings - against national officials, the International Amateur Athletic Federation, the media and the Americans - have become commonplace.

So much so that the suspicion has gained ground that the 35-year-old Grand Slam gold medallist needs a good row nowadays to raise the stakes, raise his emotional temperature and raise the

off and on the track.

glaring tribal mask. He stands, tall. He dominates,

steeped in arrogance. The intimidation seems to

Burrel, Carl Lewis and co. might not admit it, hut at the 1992 Olympics and the 1993 World Championships - the only recent races to matter they were reduced to walk-on

off that question enough times not to let it rattle him Burrell and Lewis are not competing against him here, so the American angle is out **GOREN BRIDGE**

JAAF -- who Christie upset hy failing to turn up at the World Indoor Championships this year - or the British Athletics Federation - who he clashed with over Christie also retaining his appearance money - would European and Commonwealth titles last year for

But the media might just provide the answer, that same media which provoked him to predict his retirement at the end of the season and prompted unseemly, harefisted threats at Heathrow airport a few weeks ago.

Christie, who has consistently accused the British press of failing to respect him, will face questions in the next few days about reports that he has become a high-speed grandfather. His son, they say, the result of a teenage romance, has just had his

first child at the age of 16. Christie - once accused hy a teammate of being a perfectly halanced athlete "because he has a chip on both his shoulders" - will not welcome the personal intru-

After all, he just wants

respect. So bank on him to get angry. Bank on him to get funous. Bank on him to win world championship gold. Athletics briefs

Bailey likes it hot

done that already ("They say Donovan Bailey, the I'm old. Yes, I'm old, hut not world's fastest man over cold"), and anway, he rather 100m this year, wants the hot likes the title of oldest-ever and sticky weather here to Olympic and world 100m last until this weekends sprint contest. "Hot, hot," quipped What he doesn't like is, the Jamaican-born sprinter. being reminded of his Seoul "I train in Baton Rouge Olympics drugs scare, where where there's 40 degrees and he was cleared after drinking its steaming and humid. 1 ginseng tea. But he has seen love wealther like this - the hotter the better."

Athletics goes Internet

Athletics fans and computer freaks will be able to dial - especially as Mitchell has in to the sporting action of picked up the annoying habit the World Championships, which get underway on Satur-And another row with the

China's medal tally seen down seem just too contrived.

> BELIING (R) — With supercoach Ma Junem and his estranged record-holding distance runners out of the running, China's medal tally at the coming world Athletics Championships in Sweden is expected to slip compared with last time.

"Our peformance this time will not be as good as the last championships," an official of the track and field association said in a telephone interview on Thursday.

"Last time, we had several good long distance runners who won medals," he said.

China's best bets for a medal at the coming championships in Gotbenhurg, Sweden, August 4-13 include world women's shotput champion Huang Zhihong and world cup women's 10-km walk gold medalist Gao Hongmiao, Xinhua news agency said.

Li Zewen, winner of the world cup men's 20-km walk. and Zhao Yongsheng, world cup men's 50-km walk champion, were expected to walk off with golds at the world championships, Xinhua said.

China finished second in the medal standings, behind the United States, with four golds, two silvers and two bronzes in the previous World Championsbips in Stuttgart, Germany in 1993.

"The disintegration of (the) "Ma (Family) Army has cast a shadow on China's expectations to win medals in the Olympic Games in Atlanta next year," the China Daily said, referring to Ma

O UNIQUELY INTER-CONTINENTAL - UNIQUELY INTER-CONTINENTAL - UNIQUELY INTER-CONTINENTAL -

juneren's former team. Many of Ma's estranged runners, including Wang Junxia, world 10,000 metres re-

competition hefore the Gothenhurg championships after dismal performances at Ma himself is not taking part because he is left with few runners after his onceformidable record-holding women distance runners,

duhhed the "Ma Family

Army," disbanded with

cord bolder, crashed out of

Wang leading the breakaway. Wang, who hroke with her tough coach amid acrimonious squahhles last year, performed poorly at the national trials in Taiyuan, Northern Shanxi Province, in

Wang accused Ma of abusing runners in hrutal training sessions and pocketing their winnings. She started ber own group, composed mainly of Ma's former runners but their performance has been miser-

"The disbanding of "Ma's Army" is not only a tragedy to Ma and the athletes but also to China's sports," the China Daily said.

"Both Ma Junren and his former students should have lot of lessons to draw from the incident," the newspaper said in reference to their exclusion from the World Championships.

China is to take part in 17 events in the coming World Championships, with most athletes competing for the

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couldn't produce a convinc-Yankee newcomers spark

NEW YORK (R) — The two newest Yankers came up hig lor New York Thursday to spark the bronx bombers to 4 comeback victory over the Milwaukee Brewers.

Ruhen Sierra's two-run double snapped a tie and highlighted a lour-run eighth inning as the New York Yankees rallied from a 3-1 deficit to bring David cone a victory in his first Yankee

stadium start. Gerald Williams lifted a sacrifice fly and Paul O'Neill lined a run-scoring single fo tie the game. Sierra belted a line drive double over the head of centerfielder David Hulse to hring two more runs across in the eighth-inning

ra, acquired in a trade with Oakland. "It's the situation I like to be in — with the game

second win in as many starts for New York since coming in a trade with Toronto. Cone went eight innings, giving up three runs and five hits before giving way to John Wetteland, who notched his

In Detroit, Red Sox saviour Tim Wakefield waited through a two hour 25-minute rain delay then continued to shut down the Tigers with his haffling knuckleball in a 10-2 win for 3 bedrooms and all the rest of the best. For more info. Call 822021 Swefieh



Amman Chamber of Industry ****** CALL FOR PAPERS ******

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The Amman Chamber of Industry in cooperation with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and USAID intends to hold a "National Conference on Industrial Pollution Prevention" for two days in the Chamber Grand Hall around mid January 1996. The objectives of this scientific seminar is to exchange information and practical experience on techniques for wastewater recycling and reuse.

The Chamber invites the concerned specialists in this field to submit scientific papers on the subject. Specific topics include:

· Successful Industrial Case Histories. Implementing Pollution Prevention Programmes;

 Source Reduction to minimise waste; · Recycling (Onsite and Offsite use and reuse, Reclamation to minimise waste). Abstract must be submitted (in one page 500 words) by September 14, 1995, Authors will be

notified by October 16, 1995. Papers must be

submitted in final form by November 16, 1995. All abstracts, papers and inquiries, if any, are to be addressed to the Amman Chamber of Industry, Environment Dept. and Office of Pollution Prevention, P.O.Box 1800, Amman Tel: 643001.

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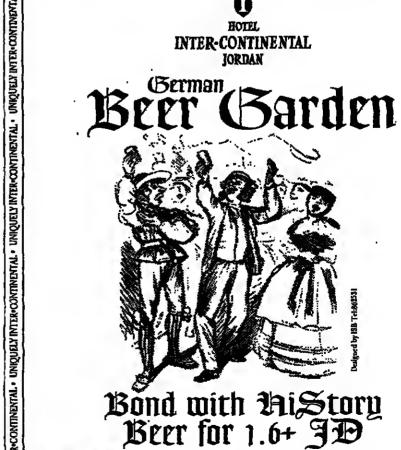
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Iraq steps up attack on U.S.

BAGHDAD (Agencies) -Iraq paved the way for the arrival on Friday of a U.N. envoy in charge of scrapping Baghdad's weapons of mass destruction with a blistering tirade against the United States, the third in as many

Iraq is incensed by last week's statement by President Bill Clinton that the United States will not lift sanctions from Baghdad because it has failed to comply fully with post-Gulf war U.N.

In Friday, Al Thawra newspaper of Iraq's ruling Baath Party said Mr. Clinton was "threatening and openly calling for the continuation of deliberate killing of our steadfast and patient peo-

Al Iraq newspaper said Washington harboured "evil and rancorous intentions" against Iraq.

Iraq repeatedly points to the suffering inflicted on ordinary people by the sanctions, which bar Baghdad from selling all but a trickle

of its vast oil supplies.
Rolf Ekeus, the Swedish chairman oI the U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM) implementing the 1991 Gulf war ceasefire terms, arrived on Friday for his latest mission to ensure that Baghdad is abiding by U.N. resolutions.

Iraq is expected to provide Mr. Ekeus with what it says is a full and thorough disclosure of its germ warfare research, the last outstanding issue between Baghdad and UN-French retaliation threatens

PARIS (AFP) - France's

threat to review imports of

Australian coal and uranium,

in the latest escalation of the

tit-for-tat row over nuclear

tests, hit at two of Canberra's

principal exports here Friday.

least one of the warnings

could backfire: high-quality

Australian coal is needed to

make French steel, and the

loss of its imports pose signi-

be found overnight, they produce it in the United

States, but you have to retreat

it," said a spokesman for the

Technical Association of

Coal is France's biggest im-

ahead of wool and iron

ported product from Austra-

ore. Last year Paris imported

2.8 million tonnes at a cost of

one billion francs (\$200 mil-

The threat to review coal

and uranium imports was

announced Thursday evening

in a package of measures

taken against Canherra in re-

taliation for its protest action

over France's planned re-

sumption of nuclear tests in

The package included a

turn to the World Trade nium, he said.

PARIS (AFP) — Croatia, a Croatia.

warning that France would

former republic in the former

Yugoslavia, declared its inde-

pendence on June 25, 1991.

Slovenia followed suit the

same day. The following is a

list of significant dates in

June 25: Declaration of in-

July 3: Clashes in Croatia

between Croatians and Serbs

fighting for ties with Serbia.

imposed on Yugoslavia by

Federal Army (majority

Serb) in eastern Croana and

the area around Dubrovnik

Nov. 18: Fall of Vukovar

Dec. 6: Federal Army

attacks Croatia and launches

assaults in Osijek and Dub-

declare a breakaway Serb

Republic uniting Krajina and

western Slovenia (east of

Croatia), in a Iourth of Croa-

Dec. 23: Germany recog-

Jan. 15: Slovenia and

Croatia recognised by the

European Economic Com-

Council votes unanimously to

send 14.000 soldiers of the

United Nations Protection

Force (UNPROFOR) into

Feb. 21: U.N. Security

nises Ctoatia and Slovenia.

tian territory.

munity.

Dec. 19: Croanan Serbs

after a three-month siege.

the United Nations.

on the Adriatic coast.

Sept. 25: Arms embargo

Oct. 1: Offensive of the

dependence in Croatia and

Slovenia.

the South Pacific.

Coal Importers (ATIC).

"This quality of coke can't

ficant problems.

But analysts noted that at

It hopes UNSCOM willgive Iraq a clean bill of health on disarmament issues, opening the way for a lifting of the

ban on oil exports. But on Thursday, the United States' ambassador to the United Nations. Madeleine Albright. appeared to dampen Iraq's

Mr. Albright told a U.S. senate hearing that Iraq could not be trusted to volunteer full data on its biological warfare stocks.

She also claimed Iraq had admitted to producing enough agents to kill every man, woman and child on

While saying it has com-plied fully with U.N. requirements. Iraq has also set the end of August as a deadline for UNSCOM to finish its work in the country.

Otherwise, Iraq says, it will no longer be ready to continue cooperation.

Mr. Ekeus told reporters in Baghdad he would discuss biological weapons and meet. Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz on Saturday as well as Oil Minister Amr Rashid.

Mr. Ekeus, whose sevenmember team includes three experts on bacteriological weapons and Russian ballistic missiles expert Nikita Smidovich, flew in from the Bahraini capital on a mission expected to last until Sunday.

The spokesman for the U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM) on disarming Iraq. Tim Trevan, said from

Organisation if Paris believed

Canberra had violated inter-

national free trade rules,

while Paris also said it would

ask the United Nations to

examine what it considers

Australian violations of a

convention on diplomatic pri-

Yves Galland said Friday it

was too early to assess the effects of the nuclear row,

sparked last week when Can-

berra black-listed French

aerospace firm Dassault-

Breguet from bidding for a

Meanwhile the "threat" to

renege on contracts to buy

Australian uranium was dis-

missed by Australian officials

in Paris on Friday as

meaningless, since France

has an interest in doing so

stralian embassy said the

terms of the contracts, worth

80 million Australian dollars

(about \$60 million) over the

next six years, were disadvan-

tageous to France because it

agreed on a long-term basis and run until 2001, andthe

price being paid is above the

current spot price for ura-

Feb. 27: Serbia and Mon-

tenegro form the Federal Re-

May 22: Bosnia

Herzegovina, Croatia and

Slovenia join the United Na-

January: Croatian Army

retakes from the Serbs the

strategically important Mas-

lenica bay where a bridge

links north and south

Croatia, as well as Zadar

airport, and Peruca dam near

Split on the Adriatic coast.

enters Medak, 200 kilometres

south of Zagreb and several

villages until then under Serb

March 30: A ceasefire

accord signed between.

Croatia and the secessionist

Serbs of Krajina calls for a

gradual disengagement of

forces and the stationing of

U.N. peacekeepers between

1995

Feb. 8: Krajina breaks off

March 12: Croatia, which

economic and political nego-

had called for U.N.

peacekeepers to leave,

accepts U.N. peacekeepers

will remain in Croatia in re-

duced numbers but with a

March 31: U.N. transfers

UNPROFOR into three dis-

tiations with Zagreb.

redefined mandate.

tinct missions.

September: Croadan army

public of Yugoslavia.

The contracts have been

was paying too much.

Main dates in Croatia

since independence

A spokesman for the Au-

anyway.

major defence contract.

French Industry Minister

key Australian imports

the commission's Manama office that Mr. Ekeus would seek a "complete and definitive" list of the germ warfare programme, as Iraq promised to supply in June.

Mr. Ekeus has said the germ warfare issue was the only major obstacle to lifting

the oil embargo. Under U.N. Resolution 687, one of the terms for ending the 1991 Gulf war to liberate Kuwait, Iraq must eliminate its weapons of mass destruction and comply with long-term arms monitoring before the embargo can be

Canadian claims for compensation from Iraq for its invasion and occupation of kuwait in 1990-1991 now exceed \$141 million, the Canadian government said Friday.

The figure was released by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in an announcement that any further Canadian claims to be considered by Ottawa for forwarding to the United Nations Compensation Commission in Geneva must be submitted by No. 15.

This deadline applies to Canadian corporations, governments (provincial and municipal) and international organisations. The deadline for claims by individuals was

The government sdaid that so far it had received approximately 1,300 claims by individuals and corporations for damage totalling more than

"This is not so much a threat as extending the opportunity" for Australia to

get out of the contract, he

said, commenting on tit-for-

tat measures announced by

Ironically, Australian ura-

nium is used to build the

bombs at the heart of the

dispute between Paris and

Canberra. Of its 7,900 tonnes

used annually. France im-

ports three per cent from

Canberra, having paid 55 mil-

lion francs (about \$10 mil-lion) for it last year.

A question mark also re-

mained Friday over a third

economić measure

announced by Paris Thurs-

day, apparently in retaliation

The decision to ban

France's state power com-pany EDF from participating

in a privatisation project in

the Australian state of Vic-

toria had apparently already

been taken because the pro-

ject was not financially

French radio that he had

taken the decision "well be-

fore all the recent informa-

tion, and for purely economic

May 2: Serb enclave of

Western Slavonia is recap-

tured by the Croatians. Zag-

reb is attacked by Serb fire,

killing six and wounding 150.

May 23: Self-styled Serb parliament of Bosnia

approves a unification plan

June 4-5: The Croatian

forces of Bosnia (HVO) and

the regular army carry out an

operation to weaken Knin.

the stronghold of the Serbs of

July 22: Croatia agrees to

give military aid to Bosnia and the Croatian-Muslim

Federation against Serb

aggression especially in

July 27: The United Na-

nons decides to strengthen its

forces along the international border in Croatia with Bosnia

and in the zones separating

the Croatian army and seces-

July 28: Bosnian Serbs and

Croatian Serbs declare a

stage of war. The Bosnian

Croatians and the Croatian

Army take Bosansko Graho-

vo, the crucial road link

southeast of Bihac, from the

Bosnian Serbs. Also taken is

July 31: President Tudj-

man demands the deploy-

ment of the U.N. peacekeep-

ers along Croatia's border with the Federal Republic of

Aug. 2: Massive deploy-

ment of troops ahead- of

offensive, with 100,000 from

the Croatian army opposed

by 50,000 secessionist Serbs

the town of Glamoc.

Yugoslavia.

of Krajina.

sionist Serbs in Krajina.

with Krajina.

Croatia.

Mr. Galland said on

testors.

attractive.

France Thursday night.

TEL AVIV (R) — Jewish settlers on Friday asked Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin not to allow Palestinian police expected to de-ploy in the West Bank to

They met Mr. Rabin and military chiefs for over two hours at the end of a week in which Jewish settlers who oppose Palestinian self-rule seized the polinical initiative by illegally occupying West

Hundreds were dragged away and briefly arrested every day from Monday to Thursday, when the settlers declared a three-day truce that coincides with Jewish re-

There is a clash between the political and security issues." said settler leader Uri Ariel of the 1993 Israel-PLO peace deal that gave Palestinians self-rule in Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho last year, and should expand in the West Bank in

"For example, letting 20.000 so-called police come in with Kalashnikovs (rifles) raises our fear of a worsening of security. not increased security. One could say. maybe these police shouldn't have Kalashnikovs, but just clubs and a few guns? This would reduce the security

ish settlers living among one million Palestinians in the West Bank are themselves armed. The Israeli army guards all the 144 settlements in Gaza and the West Bank.

West Bank as part of the land God intended for the Jews alone as their eternal patriтопу.

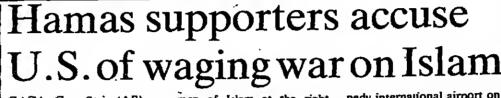
allows the settlements to stay put during an interim period and much of the delay in the implementation of its West Bank part - already over a year behind schedule - is due to Israeli-PLO differences over security.

Another week of negotiations on the second stage of the accord ended on Friday in the southern Israeli resort of Eilat with little progress onthe main issues: redeployment of Israeli troops out of Arab communities. Palesti-

alarmed the senters. "For almost two years we

Mr. Rabin's spokeswoman said the prime minister would meet the settlers again on Tuesday. She declined to say what Mr. Rabin's reaction was to the settlers' demands.

"There are some problems they think the government and the prime minister should take into consideration when negotiating with the Palestinians." she said.
"Rabin listened to them. He's not going to stop the negotiations with the Palesti-



Oragni suburb in Western Karachi. The bodies were found

early morning Friday in a mini-bus (AFP photo)

Supporters of the Islamic group Hamas burned American and Israeli flags on Friday and accused the United States of waging war on

KARACHI KILLING FIELDS: Two valuateers cover

the corpses of 12 people killed by unidentified gunmen in the

Hamas is demanding the immediate release of its polirical leader, Mousa Abu Marzouk, who was arrested last week in the United States. "Oh, Muslims. You should

all be aware that Abu Marzouk's detention is part of the war on Islam and Muslims," Sheikh Wajih Yaghi told thousands of worshippers at Hamas' Palestine mosque. In leaflets thrown into the

air by Hamas activists, their faces covered with checkered kaffiyahs, the group also warned that if Dr. Abu Marzouk waas tried or extradited to Israel, American interests in the Middle East and the rest of the world would be "exposed to the anger of Arab and Islamic masses.'

Hamas urged its supporters around the world to "stand ready to move to defend the moment and in the right

A leaflet distributed in English said the U.S. administration was responsible for Dr. Abu Marzouk's safety.

"This arrest will undoubtedly increase the anger and hatred of Arab and Islamic peoples against the USA and its aggressive policy," it

"Bearing in mind that Hamas didn't attack any American targets but directed its struggle against the Israeli occupation and its brutal acts in Palestine only, it calls the American administration to (reconsider) this serions step and secure his

English and Arabic banners outside and inside the mosque said, "reconsider ev-erything before extraditing Abu Marzouk" and "handing Dr. Abu Marzouk over to Israel will hurt American in-terests in the Middle East."

Dr. Abu Marzouk was arrested at New York's Ken-

nedy international airport on July 25. U.S. immigration inspectors said his name had recently been added to a list of suspected terrorists.

Israel put out a warrant for his arrest, contending that Dr. Abu Marzouk ordered attacks on Israeli citizens and soldiers and sent money to the West Bank and Gaza that Hamas used to buy weapons to carry out attacks.

In Washington, State Department Press Secretary Mike McCurry said Thursday the administration bas not received a lormal request from Israel for extradition of Dr. Abu Marzouk, But be confirmed informal contacts about Tel Aviv's desire to try Dr. Abu Marzouk on terrorist charges.

"We have not received a formal request from Israel," Mr. McCurry said, "We would of course consider that. We have bad a communication from the government of Israel on the status of this matter.

Britain's Queen Mom celebrates 95th birthday

LONDON (R) — Dotting fans queued all night to wish Britain's Queen Mother a happy 95th birthday Friday and poet laureate Ted Hughes likened the country's favourite royal to a mighty oak tree. "She is a people person and she believes people should have more fun when she is around — and they normally do," said camera shop manager David Butler outside the Clarence House residence of the royal. icon fondly known as "the Queen Mum." The Queen Mother, recovering from a cataract operation and sometimes forced into a wheelchair by her frailty, Has maintained her popularity throughout 60 tumultuous years for the House of Windsor. She hosted a family lunch Friday for three generarions of her family, as well-wisbers sing happy birth-day outside her bome and military gun salutes thunder out across Hyde Park and the Tower of London. Ted Hughes, Britain's official bard as poet laureate, likened the Queen Mother to a mighty oak tree who symbolised the strength of Britain through two world wars and a century that began with her birth. "The years in your face carry the strength of the oak tree and the strength's grace," he said in a specially penned tribute. The Queen Mother, propelled into the limelight with her husband George when King Edward VIII abdicated in 1936 to marry an American divorces. won the bearts of a nation when comforting bomb blitz victims in World War II.

Yoko to sing for ... Hiroshima with McCartney ...

TOKYO (AFP) — Yoko Ono, the widow of former Beatles member John Lennon, will unyell a new song for Hiroshima Sunday, the 50th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing on the Japanese city, with Paul McCartuey helping her. Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK) will air the song uma 3kv is Aiways Blue" in its morning news programme "Obayo Nippon (Good Morning Japan)," an NHK official said Friday, "I would like to dedicate this song to Hiroshima, praying that people will stop hurting each other in the world as quickly as possible," Ono reportedly said in a statement. The Japanese artist was married to Lennon, who was shot dead by a fan in New York in 1980. One composed the song last year for a play dealing with Hiroshima, and recorded it at a studio owned by McCartney, Lennon's partner in the Beatles until the band's breakup in 1971, the Asahi Shimbun said. McCartney played bass guitar, while Sean Lennon, Ono's son with Lennon, and McCartney's family joined in with keyboards and drums. the newspaper said. The joint recording of the song also marked a reconciliation between Ono and McCartney. Their rift is said to have been a cause for the Beatles' disbandment. "I think it's great" there's been a reconciliation between the two as a result of their plea against nuclear weapons," Sanae Saito, a representative of a Tokyobased Beatles Fan Club, was quoted as saying by Kyodo

Socialite: Ramos is sexiest man in the Philippines

News Service.

MANILA (R) - President Fidel Ramos was ranked as the sexiest man in the Philippines by a socialist. who has been romantically linked to him, a business paper said. "President Fidel Ramos because he dresses up very well. He's tall, dark and hand-Businessworld quoted Rosemarie "Baby" Arenas as saying when asked to name the country's 12 sexiest men. Ms. Arenas, who ran and lost in the race for the Philippine Senate in May elections, bas been widely reported to be Mr. Ramos's mistress, but both have denied this. Ms. Arenas said convicted tax dodged Ferrinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. who attracted squealing women in the last polls, is not even close to being sexy.
"He's got no butt. How can
he be sexy?" she said.

demand unarmed **Palestinian** police

Settlers

carry rifles.

ligious holidays.

the next phase.

Many of the 100,000 Jew-

The protesters claim the

The Israel-PLO peace deal

nian elections, and security. Settler Rabbi Shlomo Riskin said the talks increasingly

settlers have felt almost com-pletely isolated," he said. "We are in a fog. We don't know what will happen to our land or to our water. For us. these are all existential prob-

nians. They didn't ask him

NEWS IN BRIEF

60 feared killed as ferry capsizes German police overpower kidnapper

NEW DELHI, India (AP) - A ferry capsized KIEL, Germany (R) - German commandos in a flooded eastern Indian river and at least Overpowered a Lebanese man and freed seven 60 passengers were feared drowned, news children he took captive, doused with petrol reports said Friday. The ferry was carrying and threatened to ignite, police said on 100 passengers when it capsized Thursday in the flooded Damodar river in wet Bengal state during a fiery thunderstorm, Press Trust of India news agency said. Local police said 40 passengers either swam ashore or were rescued by villagers of Mejia Ghat in Burdwan district. Rescue teams were still looking for '300 million-year-old lizard' possible survivors.

Lebanese lost \$6.4b in war

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) - Lebanon is estimated to have lost \$6.4 billion in revenues from tourists since civil war erupted in 1975, a hotel industry official was quoted Friday as saving. Pierre Salameh, a senior official in Lebanon's Hotel and Tourism Association, said the country has a long way to go because of the destruction of hotels wrought by the 1975-90 civil war well as international development and the advance of the industry. The war took Lebanon off the map and the nation lagged behind in everything, replaced as a tourist destination by other attractive countries," he told a seminar earlier this week. His comments were published by the conservative Ad Diyar newspaper Friday. Tiny Lebanon was a major tourist destination in the Middle East before the war, attracting millions of Arab and Western tourists lured by its Mediterranean beaches and mountainous terrain.

Karachi peace talks deadlocked

ISLAMABAD (AFP) - An explosion of violence in Karachi which killed 27 people has left "no hope" for an early peace in Pakistan's er did not give the terms of the contract but Friday. "We feel there is no hope for an early resumption of talks with the government, said Ajmal Dehlvi, chief negoriator of the ethnic based Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM). Negotiations to end the bloodshed deadlocked early this week when Dehlvi boycotted the fifth round of talks, saying the government team was not sincere. More than 2,000 have been killed in Karachi over the past 19 months, including 12 who were found bound, blindfolded and slaughtered in a minibus in one of the worst incidents on Thursday. All told, 27 people were gunned down Thursday. As the killings continue, the dispute between the government and the MQM has degenerated into one over names. The MQM, which Emirati. The court at Al ain, 160 kilometres represents the Mohajir migrants from India east of Abu Dhabi, sentenced Balaban to who arrived following the partition of the seven years in prison and ordered her to pay subcontinent in 1947, objects to the govern- 150,000 dirhams (\$40,000) in blood money to ment's decision to refer to it as the "Altaf. the man's family. But it also awarded her Group" after its leader, Altaf Hussain. "It 100,000 dirhams (\$27,000) in compensation seems the government will keep on calling us after concluding she had been raped by Mr. Altaf Group. They should recognise the Baloushi. The UAE decided to order a retrial MQM and respect its mandate." Mr. Dehlvi after Balaban's lawyer filed (or an appeal. A said in a interview published here Friday. He hearing to determine whether an appeals said no talks would he held until the govern-ment begins to call the group MQM. scheduled for September.

Friday. Police in the northern town of Rendsburg, near Kiel, stormed a home for asylum seekers where the 35-year-old man was holding the children and freed them unharmed, a spokesman said.

GOTHA, Germany (AFP) - German and American scienusts have discovered a 300 million-year-old lizard's skeleton in the Thueringen forest, near Gotha, central Germany, scientists said Friday. According to Thomas Martens, curator of paleontology at Gotha's Natural History Museum, the metrelong (three-foot) skeleton's species has not been yet identified. The saurian group of reptiles originally included lizards, crocodiles and several extinct forms, but is now technically restricted to lizards. The primitive forms of vertebrate animals are not to be confused with dinosaurs which lived some 150 million years later and were larger, Martens

300 Chinese buses for Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — China is to supply Sudan with 300 buses in the next two years, a Khartoum paper said on Friday. The privately-owned Al Rai Al Akhir (the other viewpoint) reported that a contract for the supply of 100 buses in the next four months was signed on Wednesday by a finance ministry official and the economic counsellor at the Chinese embassy in Khartoum. The newspapsuffers from an acute shortage of public transport. The other 200 buses are to come in the next two years, it said.

Maid's retrial to begin in UAE

ABU DHABI (AFP) - A Filipina maid jailed for seven years for killing her employer after he raped her will have a second chance to clear her name when a retrial begins in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Saturday, A new panel of judges will hold the first hearing at an Islamic court which on June 26 convicted 16-year-old Sarah Balaban of the manslaughter of Mohammad Abdullah Al Baloushi, an

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Cabinetallocates JD 259.000 for reiugee camp

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10 000 to 1-2 ==-

Alghanistan wants worldwide ban onland mines

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